



**Start of Sonneborn Family  
Collection Addenda**

**AR 11872**

Sys #: 000405469

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AR 11872 VI

Sonneborn Family Collection Addenda, 1915-2001

**THE SONNEBORN STORY**  
**A CELEBRATION OF GENERATIONS**

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**DVD produced by: Rewind Memories**  
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CAPTION

THE SONNEBORN STORY  
A CELEBRATION OF GENERATIONS

17-18 August 1994 -- 5754 Elul 10-11  
Jerusalem, Israel

[Introduction]

The story of the Sonneborn family is one of good periods and tough ones, happy events and sad ones, tragic times in Germany, and new beginnings in America and the Land of Israel. It is also about the diverse backgrounds of today's Sonneborns. We have pieced the story together from photographs, letters, interviews, written testimonies, documents, academic articles and history books. Much of the material is subjective, often revealing and sometimes contradictory.

We'll present our story through slides with accompanying commentary. We refer to Israel before statehood as 'Eretz Israel' -- the Land of Israel -- unless the source from which we quote used the term 'Palestine.' Our narrative jumps chronologically and geographically; you'll see there is a "method to our madness." We hope to be forgiven an occasional mispronounced name, a wrongly identified relative or place, an inaccurate date or an innocent misrepresentation of fact. As our emphasis is on the story of Sonneborns-by-blood, we have bypassed, with a few exceptions, people who have married into the family. If one group or another has been over- or under-represented, it is simply a reflection of the material available to us.

... And now, let's begin.

JERUSALEM SLIDE

Our story begins and ends in Jerusalem. On the way it takes us through a dim European diaspora, coming to light in the mid-18th century in the villages of southwest Germany. The story then moves on to continents east and west, until we close a chapter with the family gathering in Jerusalem in August 1994.

DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

A few kilometers from where we sat at Kibbutz Ramat Rahel, Roman legions, nearly 2,000 years ago, struck down the walls of Jerusalem with thunderous battering rams and flaming torches, and burned the city to the ground. Some of its Jewish inhabitants fled to other parts of the Land of Israel; others were expelled and dispersed throughout the vast Roman Empire.

#### WORMS TOWER.

By the 4th century, Jewish merchants had settled in southwest Germany in cities along the Rhine. Jews also lived in large towns such as Worms, an important center of Jewish learning in the 10th and 11th centuries.

#### WORMS GHETTO WALL

Here, typically, within the Jewish quarter, community life centered around ...

#### WORMS SYNAGOGUE

the synagogue, mikvah and yeshiva, and here,

#### WORMS CEMETERY

in a separate cemetery on the outskirts of the town -- the Jews buried their dead.

#### CRUSADER SOLDIERS

Then, in the year 1096, the Crusader hordes began sweeping through the Rhineland, giving the Jews in their path the choice of conversion or death. Over the next 200 years, flourishing communities disappeared, and the Jews of Germany entered long centuries of darkness and persecution, surviving in the countryside as a periodically tolerated minority.

#### WOELFERSHIEM TOWER;

Late in the 12th century Jews are known to have settled in the rural villages of Hessen -- where Sonneborns would first appear in town registers some 600 years later. Although subjected to occasional religious persecution and ever-increasing official regulations, the Jews managed to live, mainly as middlemen, by paying huge taxes to local rulers in return for their protection.

#### CASTLE AND COUNTRYSIDE

The Lords of Briedenbach, for example, collected protection money from their Jews until 1823. Our proof that Jews probably had arrived in the tiny Hessen town of Briedenbach by 1650 is an official complaint which stated that, "We are informed that a Jew named Liebmann has recently slipped into Briedenbach ... without the approval of the proper authorities..." About a hundred years later, in June 1749, a taxable letter of safe conduct to Briedenbach was issued for Aaron Loeb, the progenitor of the Sonneborn family. In 1773, ...

#### PAGE WITH LIST

the town register lists eight Jewish families, including Aaron Loeb, 47 years old, his wife Sprintz (Betty) and two sons. According to this document, Aaron Loeb dealt in livestock and fruit. He lived in a house, reputed to be the first in the village with running water and drainage facilities - and here the family put down its roots.

#### TREE ROOTS

In 1808, following a Proclamation by the State of Hessen, Aaron Loeb's sons, Feibel Uri and Moses assumed the surname 'Sonneborn,' which is also the name of several German towns as well as ...

#### SONNEBORN HOUSE - ERFURT

the surname of a large number of non-Jewish Germans, as we see in this sign over the entrance of an elegant house in Erfurt, Germany. We assume the brothers chose it at the suggestion of a friend or business acquaintance.

#### BREIDENBACH POSTCARD

This is the village of Briedenbach in 1913, then celebrating its 1,000-year anniversary. At that time, it had 876 inhabitants, only 17 of whom were Jewish. However, 50 years earlier, out of 743 residents 104 were Jews.

According to one family historian, Samuel Sonneborn, youngest son of LEVI SONNEBORN: "The Sonneborn family home in Breidenbach was house number 39, called the 'Anerz House.' Not only was this the birthplace of all of Aaron Loeb's children, but many of his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and indeed great-great-grandchildren were born there."

#### TRUNK [graphics]

This is the trunk of the tree from which we've sprung. Aaron Loeb and Sprinz (Betty) are its roots; their children, a daughter Gitel (1770-1840) and sons Feibel Uri (1772-1836) and Moses (1774-1852), are at its base.

Among the ten children of Moses and his second wife are Henry Sonneborn Sr. (1826-1917), of whom we shall speak later, and Joseph Sonneborn (1837-1931), the great-grandfather of ...

#### CHARLES AND ROBERTA SONNEBORN

Charles Sonneborn, the Sonneborns' dedicated and perservering researcher, geneologist, chronicler and publisher of two family histories, seen here with his wife Roberta.

And now we pause to tell a tale. In May 1976, a tourist to Israel attended Shabbat morning services at Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem. There was a Bat Mitzvah that morning.

#### LYNNE HIRSCH - BAT MITZVAH

As the young lady, Lynne Hirsch, received instructions for her future life from the rabbi, he intoned that she should follow in the footsteps of her renowned ancestors -- the Hirsch, Falk and Sonneborn families. Afterwards, the tourist approached the Bat Mitzvah's grandmother and said: "My namey is Stanley Sonneborn; I'm a descendant of Moses Sonneborn," to which she replied, "I'm ..."

#### KATHARINE SONNEBORN FALK

Katharine Sonneborn, a descendant of Moses' brother, Feibel Uri. Come to my house for tea tomorrow afternoon." And thus the connection between the two original Sonneborn brothers -- Feibel Uri and Moses -- was reestablished. Subsequently, Stanley wrote of this encounter to his cousin, Edward Sonneborn, who in turn wrote to Katharine of his research on the Sonneborn family -- an obsession he passed on to his son Charles.

#### CHILDREN OF FEIBEL URI [graphics]

We now continue with the offspring of Feibel Uri (1772-1836) and his wife Hennel (1771-1840). Their daughter Taube numbers among her descendants the Blaustein family of Baltimore. The descendants of their eldest son Josef and his wife, Miryam Stern, are the central focus of our story to whom we shall return. Baer's seven children seem to have left no trail from their hometown Breidenbach.

#### ISIDORE SONNEBORN & ROSA KUDER SONNEBORN

Feist had five children: grandson Isidore and his wife, Rosa Kuder, shown here, had one daughter, Irmgard Sonneborn -- now Yehudit Kallner -- who lives with her family in Israel. Other members of Feist's branch reside today in Holland and Norway. The descendants of Aron are in the United States.

#### EIGHT CHILDREN OF JOSEF AND MIRYAM

We now turn to Josef and Miryam Sonneborn who lived in house number 99 in Breidenbach. Josef earned his livelihood as a wholesale livestock trader. The couple had eight children ... Levi, Jette, Feist, Bettchen, Feibel, Isaak, Aaron and Hannchen, all born in Breidenbach between 1833 and 1848. Feist died as an infant. The remaining seven married and multiplied. In this photograph taken in Marburg in 1905, we see three of the siblings ...

#### 1905 MARBURG GROUP

LEVI, center, rear; FEIBEL, extreme right rear; and HANNCHEN, in the black dress, 2nd from left, front row. Here also, 3rd from right in the back row, is cousin Henry Sonneborn Sr. from the Moses Sonneborn branch. And in this picture ...

#### SONNEBORN BROTHERS

we see LEVI, seated, on the occasion of the visit of his younger brothers FEIBEL, left, and AARON, both of whom he had invited to come from America to spend time with the family in Germany.

#### ISAAK AND OLGA

Josef and Miryam's fifth child, ISAAK, is shown here with second wife Olga -- his sister JETTE's daughter.

We were unable to find pictures of either JETTE or BETTCHEN. However, keep the seven in mind -- LEVI, JETTE, BETTCHEN, FEIBEL, ISAAK, AARON AND HANNCHEN -- each branch will be referred to by name as we tell their stories.

SIEGMUND SONNEBORN

LEVI's son, Siegmund was born in 1872 ...

HOUSE IN BREIDENBACH

in this house in Breidenbach ... In the Zero Psalm of his  
"Book of the Baalshem Mishpat," Siegmund described his  
childhood in rural Germany:

'As a child I went to school with many kinds of teachers:

AMALIE AND LEVI SONNEBORN IN SAN REMO

My loving parents, differently but well endowed  
To make our home a never-failing source  
Of kind consideration, mirth, song and laughter,  
Of aspirations without end and measure for the abounding life  
the prophets paint;

RURAL BARNYARD

"My rutting pigeons, dogs and kine; our setting hens;  
Our calving cows whom father fed ceremoniously with pride and  
show of feeling  
A thickly buttered piece of bread right after each and every  
dropping;  
A cherrystone I nursed to treehood in a potsherd;  
The shock I had - at five years of age -  
When stealthily I stroked the cheek of dear dead granddad;  
The breakdown, suffering and death of our heroic rooster,  
The funeral I arranged for him within the graveyard on the  
mountain top --

CEMETERY

That curious Jew-God's acre  
Where ancestor on ancestor of mine from under heather-covered  
hummocks  
Conversed with me in the incessant whisp'rings of the pines;

LIGHTNING

The frightening thunderstorms at which by day or night  
Our family assembled to roll their prayers at each flash and  
peal;

WATERFALL

The freshets of spring that turned our downs into a raging  
sea;

FIELDS AND STREAM

The waving fields of grain; the changeful mood; the heavy  
snows;  
The riotous beauty of my mother's garden;  
The joy and holiness of every Feast and Sabbath day;  
Before I learned to read, I learned from them:  
There is a phase of life we're living without knowing,  
There is a truth above the truth of words!



#### WOELFERSHEIM TOWN SIGN

Siegmund's brother Samuel tells us: ~~"All our father~~ LEVI's other brothers and sisters married away from Breidenbach -- except for Uncle Aaron, who went to the United States in 1866 at age 16 to escape conscription into the German army."

#### MAP OF GERMANY

On this map of southwestern Germany we see some of the towns where Sonneborns lived before the Nazi party came to power in 1933. In the north is Breidenbach; Marburg to the southeast; a short distance to the south lies Giessen, with Hungen to the southeast; Woelfersheim is nearby, with Frankfurt -- the big city -- a short distance to the south. Gross-Gerau, Geinsheim and Oppenheim lie to the southwest and Zwingenburg is south of Frankfurt; all in all, 135 km, or less than 100 miles, lie between Briedenbach and Zwingenburg!

#### WOELFERSHEIM: HOUSE OF HERMANN ROSSMANN

Josef and Miryam's eldest daughter JETTE married Meier Rossmann and moved into this house which the young couple built in Woelfersheim, a village of some 50 families. There they had five daughters and one son; the house was passed on to their son, Hermann.

JETTE's great-grandson, the late Hanan Aynor, formerly Hans Sonneborn, tells us: ~~"The Sonneborn~~ families were not wealthy people. Since Jews were not allowed to own land until the mid 19th century, they made their living by merchandising -- basically horse and cattle trading, buying up wheat and selling it again. Since only one or two of the sons could inherit the family assets, the others had to marry someone with a permit to live in another place and where there was work. As the rural Jewish communities were so very small, the men sometimes looked within their own families for a bride."

#### WOELFERSHEIM: HOUSE OF BERTHOLD SONNEBORN

JETTE's brother ISAAK also moved to Woelfersheim when he married his second wife, his niece Olga. This is their son Berthold's house, as it looks today. Note the cover on the chimney for smoking meat. Hanan tells us: ~~"There was a,~~ machine to make sausages. After dinner, the family cleaned the intestines and filled them with ground meat. The raw sausages were smoked in the chimney, which was stacked with hundreds and hundreds of them."

#### HOUSE IN GERMAN VILLAGE, ON POSTCARD

What was life like for the Jews living in rural German villages? In general, over the decades, it did not change much. Although antisemitism was not unknown, Jews lived side by side with their non-Jewish neighbors, spoke German and attended the village school. However, as Jews, they also lived a community apart.

#### **BREIDENBACH SYNAGOGUE**

Generations of Sonneborns attended this synagogue in Breidenbach. German Jews are famous for their manners, punctuality and discipline. In Israel, a person with these characteristics is called a Yekke. We can see how the Sonneborn 'Yekkishness' became inbred as our ancestors scrupulously adhered to the "Synagogue Ordinance of the County of Beidenkopf" of 1841, which included:

ARTICLE 4: Children under age five are not allowed in the synagogue. Parents of children present are responsible for the children's silence and good behavior. ARTICLE 5: Everyone shall be properly dressed for synagogue. ... The wearing of overalls, house slippers and the like is prohibited.

ARTICLE 6: Entering the synagogue, including the opening and closing of the doors, shall be done as quietly as possible. ... Walking around, or any other movements causing noise or disturbance of the service, are prohibited, as is, obviously, talking to neighbors.

ARTICLE 12: Any violation will incur a serious reprimand ... if this does not bear fruit, the case will result in appropriate punishment by a court of law ... which could impose a fine or a prison term!

Regarding the family's degree of Jewish observance, Hanan Aynor relates: "Among themselves, the family spoke a Jewish-German. They were deeply religious, but not in an Orthodox way. They tried not to distinguish themselves too much from the rural environment. They sang German songs, drank beer with their neighbors and the young men went to the army."

#### **PHOTO OF LEO, KARL, ADOLF, BERTHOLD IN UNIFORM**

For example, my grandfather ISAAC had seven sons in the German army in World War I, 3-4 on the Russian front, 2-3 on the western front. Shown here are Leo, Karl, Adolf and Berthold (seated). But the family kept the Shabbat, went to prayers Friday night and Saturday morning. The holidays were observed and the food was traditionally kosher."

#### **OLGA ROSSMANN SONNEBORN IN FRONT OF HOUSE**

"In the 1920s, I remember visiting Oma Olga in Woelfersheim, shown here in front of her house. Combining a calm manner with a steel-edged will, she was the dominant personality in the family for many years. ... People visited each other often. They didn't mind walking for hours. The Breidenbach Sonneborns knew the Rossmanns and Sterns for generations and frequently intermarried. On Saturday mornings the men went to pray and came back for lunch afterwards. ... I remember once when we children were playing in the second-floor guestroom, we accidentally pulled off the eiderdown quilt covering the big double bed. Under it we found some huge porcelain pots with food all wrapped up to keep them warm for the Shabbat!"

#### OLGA PEELS POTATOES;

Here Olga is peeling potatoes, while two of her grandchildren look on. Hanan continues, "The food culture was tremendous. Tomatoes, potato pancakes, 2-3 soups, 7-8 kinds of meat, charlottes, sauerbraten ... potatoes were a basic staple."

...

#### HERMANN ROSSMANN WITH SACKS OF POTATOES;

as we see Olga's brother, Hermann Rossmann sitting among sacks of potatoes in their barnyard. Hanan continues, "But during the week, people ate frugally. Coffee and black bread with butter for breakfast -- but on Friday night, they lived like kings, eating and drinking both beer and the sweet wine Olga made herself. I never remember her table with less than 25-30 people."

#### (1925) HERMANN ROSSMANN DRIVING PAIR OF OXEN

By the 1920s, the family in Woelfersheim owned a substantial amount of land. Here Hermann Rossmann drives a pair of oxen to work in the fields. Hanan relates, "I helped harvest potatoes and sugar beets. There was also a huge kitchen garden near the house. It was a hard-working society. Men got up at 4 o'clock in the morning; the women arose even earlier to light the coal stove, put on water for coffee and then wake the men. Dinner was at 7 in the evening; at 8 o'clock everyone went to bed."

Now we'll see how the family agricultural tradition, rooted in the German village, was spread by the Sonneborns over three continents. Raising poultry, for example:

#### OLGA, HERMANN AND JETTE ROSSMANN WITH CHICKENS /

In Woelfersheim, JETTE's children, Olga Sonneborn and Hermann Rossmann and his wife, Jette Stern, sit among the chickens in their barnyard.

#### AMALIE AND KATHARINE SONNEBORN AND CHICKENS;

Thousands of miles to the west, about the year 1915, LEVI's granddaughters, Amalie and Katharine Sonneborn, feed chickens at their Maryland farm.

#### (1938) HERTA AND LOTTE WEISENBACH, WITH CHICKENS

And, some 20 years later, LEVI's great-granddaughters, Herta and Lotte Weisenbach, tended chickens at their farm in Ra'anana, Israel.

Dairy farming is also an important family pursuit:

#### MARGOT SONNEBORN AND NORBERT HESS WITH COW;

Here ISAAK's granddaughter Margot Sonneborn poses in Woelfersheim with a cow, perhaps to impress her future brother-in-law, Norbert Hess [Karen Reinstein's father].

#### ROSSMANN'S WATCHING NEIGHBOR MILK COW

About 1936, we see JETTE'S grandsons, Kaufmann Rossmann, with his wife, and Fritz Rossmann, with Kaufmann's young son Meir, watching a neighbor milk a cow.

MEIR ROSSMANN WITH COW /  
and here, Meir shows off the first cow on his 'meshek.'

(1937) ELLEN FALK AND COW /  
In the late 1930s, halfway around the world in the United States, LEVI's great-granddaughter Ellen Falk poses with the family's world champion Jersey cow, Designs Martina.

SHIMON OPPENHEIMER MILKING COW /  
Back in Woelfersheim and milking a Holstein is JETTE's great-grandson, Shimon Oppenheimer. ... They say there's no accounting for taste.

SHIMON OPPENHEIMER AND PIG /  
Here Shimon cuddles a piglet and ...

MILDRED HIRSCH GOLDBERG AND GOAT /  
ISAAK's granddaughter, Mildred Hirsch Goldberg poses with a goat. Some prefer tilling the soil:

KITTY FALK WITH CUTTINGS /  
In the 1940s, LEVI's granddaughter Kitty Falk brings in the cuttings at Falklands Farm in Pennsylvania..

HANAN GRUNEBERG ON TRACTOR /  
A decade later, JETTE's great-grandson Hanan Gruneberg repairs a tractor at Kibbutz Ma'ayan Zvi. ...

HANAN GRUNEBERG WITH COMBINE /  
And here Hanan demonstrates how to use a combine to young Nahal pioneers in a new settlement in the Negev. ... while

MEIR ROSSMANN /  
Meir Rossmann admires the tall corn grown at his kibbutz. ... Horsemanship is a valued family skill.

SHIMON OPPENHEIMER MOUNTING HORSE /  
We learn the fine points from Shimon Oppenheimer about 1925 in Woelfersheim.

SHIMON OPPENHEIMER ON HORSE /  
Shimon made it!

PONY AT FALKLANDS /  
In the early 30's, in Pennsylvania, three of LEVI's great-grandchildren, Ellen Falk, John and Deborah Katz put pony Mollie through her paces. Fritz, the German shepherd, sits guard.

ERNST AND GRETE KATZ AND HORSES /  
In 1935, LEVI's great-grandson Ernst Katz goes riding with his wife Grete in Ra'anana.

To this day the family's agricultural tradition is being carried on by the Beifus family, the Rossmanns, the Oppenheimers/Ofeks, the Kallners, the Grunebergs and ...

**NATAN LEV IN DAIRY AT KIBBUTZ HEFETZ HAIM:**  
the Levs, as seen in this picture of Natan Lev working in the Kibbutz Hefetz Haim dairy.

**ALAIN AND Yael KOGINSKY**  
Following a rural lifestyle, ISAAC and JETTE's descendant, Yael Aynor and husband Alain Koginsky, both veterinarians, prepare to plant a tree near their home in the artists' village Ein Hod, in northern Israel.

**LANGSDORF HOUSE**  
Going back now to Germany in the first half of the 19th century: 90% of German Jews still lived in small villages. Despite generally good relations with their neighbors, the Jew always remained the Other, ever careful to behave properly and to be on the lookout for antisemitism. And friendly as Jewish and Christian children were in their village schools, when they approached marriageable age, their paths separated. It was into this atmosphere that Henry, seventh child of Moses Sonneborn was born in Breidenbach in 1826....

**HENRY SONNEBORN SR WITH WIFE AUGUSTE**  
seen here late in life with his second wife Auguste. Henry is important to our story because, not only was he the first Sonneborn to go to the United States, but he also set the stage for the emigration of many Sonneborns who followed. His son, Henry Jr., tells us:

**"In his youth** Henry was a hard-working lad. One afternoon in May 1849, Henry and his brother, Jonas, were returning from a village where they had just delivered and been paid for some cattle their father had sold. On the way home they were accosted by a constable on horseback. He was obviously tipsy and demanded their names and what was their business. When they told him, he insisted they were lying. Even after showing the constable the bill-of-sale for the cattle, he called them thieves, arrested them and confiscated their money. This was more than Henry could bear. At a favorable opportunity, he seized the man's arm and jerked him off his horse. With Jonas's help, he disarmed him and regained their money. When they got home, it was night. They told their story to their parents, who were greatly alarmed and sent for two of their Jewish neighbors to discuss what should be done. To defy an officer of the law in 19th century Germany, especially for a Jew, usually spelt catastrophe. It was decided the lads should flee that very night to Holland from where they would depart for America -- and thus they made their way in a sailing ship to New York City."

After landing, Jonas stayed in New York and prospered. Henry continued on to Baltimore, began working as a peddler and eventually acquired stores in various towns, placing his brothers and other newly-arrived relatives from Germany in charge. Thus Henry's second cousin, Josef and Miryam's youngest son AARON, was sent to Wisconsin to manage a Sonneborn store.

#### NEWSPAPER CLIPPING OF NIDA BERNSTEIN

AARON's granddaughter Benvenida Valentina Henriques da Silva Solis Sonneborn -- today Nida Sonneborn Bernstein -- appears here in an article published during America's bicentennial. Nida writes: "~~My father~~ Nathans, daughter of a prominent Sephardic family of Philadelphia, married AARON Sonneborn, he was a clothing merchant. Their son, my father, Joseph Moses Sonneborn was born in 1883 in Janesville, Wisconsin -- the Sonneborn clothing business had expanded that far west."

#### AARON S. STORE IN PATTERSON, N.J

Later AARON moved his family to Patterson, NJ. where he opened a dry goods store, which burned to the ground soon after AARON died in 1911.

#### JOSEPH AND GLADYS SONNEBORN, WITH GRANDDAUGHTER

Nida continues: "~~My father~~ ph, shown here with his wife and granddaughter in 1949, dealt in cotton commodities, but he also financed my mother's brainchild -- the Giant Balloon, featured in Thanksgiving Day parades from coast to coast. It was a great business until the war."

#### PLAQUE OF HENRY SONNEBORN AND COMPANY

Meanwhile, with his business growing by leaps and bounds, Henry Sonneborn became a well-respected citizen and philanthropist in the Baltimore community. Every four or five years, he went to Europe and always visited Breidenbach, the village of his birth.

#### AUGUSTE SONNEBORN

On one such trip in 1888, Henry, then a widower of 63, proposed to his fourth cousin, LEVI's 21-year-old daughter Auguste Sonneborn. They married and had a son, Henry Sonneborn Jr. The next year Auguste sent for her younger brother, Siegmund, who ...

#### FIRST PAGE FROM HOPKINSIAN-CLASS OF '93

graduated from Johns Hopkins University, class of '93,

#### BOARD OF EDITORS PICTURE

where he, seated at right, was an editor of the class yearbook ...

#### JOKE FROM YEARBOOK

and the subject of a corny joke. Siegmund then went into the family clothing business as his brother-in-law's assistant.

#### AD FOR STYLEPLUS CLOTHES<sup>1</sup>

By 1911 Henry Sonneborn & Co. was America's largest manufacturer of men's clothing. Note the trademark in the right lower corner with Henry Sonneborn's portrait. Not only was the company famous for its innovative and progressive labor policies, but it was also known as a haven for Jews. Word got around in every country that any Jew who was driven out of his home, if he could only get to Baltimore, he could find a job at Sonneborn's factory.

#### MARK NEUMANN AND WIFE, ROBIN BLITZSTEIN

Henry Sr's great-great grandson, Mark Neumann, shown here with his recent bride, Robin Blitzstein, traces his ancestry back to both the Feibel Uri and Moses branches through his mother's family.

#### HOUSE IN GERMAN VILLAGE<sup>2</sup>

Meanwhile in Germany a few decades after the founding of Henry's clothing manufacturing empire in America, Josef and Leo Stern of Breidenbach, brothers-in-law of JETTE's daughter Auguste, opened a store in 1880 selling carriage and machine lubricants. Soon they set up a plant in Koln and began making their own products -- first Vaseline and then machine oils.

#### JACQUES SONNEBORN in 1936<sup>3</sup>

In 1886, LEVI's eldest son, Jacques, joined the company. Three years later, Leo Stern and Jacques established the headquarters of "Oelwerke Stern und Sonneborn A.G." in Hamburg, subsequently setting up branches in France, Italy and England. The company's customers included major railroads, shipping lines, military contractors and the German Navy. After World War I, the firm merged with the Dutch Shell Co.

#### JACQUES AND RUDOLF SONNEBORN IN ROTTERDAM<sup>4</sup>

Here we see Jacques meeting Rudolf Sonneborn who came from New York to Rotterdam on company business. In 1933, all the Jewish employees of Shell were dismissed, including the Stern brothers and Jacques Sonneborn. Jacques's son, Edgar ...

#### EDGAR WITH BEATRICE

shown here with his niece, Beatrice Falkenstein, had worked in the business for a number of years. In 1937, he and his family fled to England where he gave the British government vital information regarding German oil installations and was thus granted instant British citizenship. Jacques Sonneborn's descendants still live in England today.

\* \* \*

#### FERDINAND'S DIPLOMA<sup>5</sup>

Meanwhile, LEVI's son, Ferdinand, completed high school in 1894 in Breidenbach, as we see by this diploma. It is told that he showed such academic promise that the family raised the money so he could continue his education. Thus Ferdinand earned a PhD in chemistry....

#### FERDINAND'S PH.D DIPLOMA

emigrated to America and was the guiding force behind the establishment in 1903 of L. Sonneborn Sons Inc., an oil and chemical company, with offices in New York, plants in Petrolia, PA and Nutley, NJ, and nationwide distribution of Amalie Oil, named for his mother, Amalia Bacharach Sonneborn.

#### (1931) FERDINAND S. WITH CHILDREN AT FALKLANDS

He was also everyone's favorite Uncle Ferdinand -- shown here in 1931 cuddling great-nephew John Katz and great-nieces Ellen Falk and Deborah Katz. The chauffeur's son sits on the top step.

#### RUDOLF SONNEBORN AT SONOL OFFICE

Another chapter in the Sonneborn oil story began in the mid-1950s, when Siegmund's son Rudolf [left], a top executive at L. Sonneborn Sons, together with some American investors, acquired the assets of a foreign oil company which had operated in Israel during the British Mandate period. They founded Sonol, one of the three major fuel suppliers in the country to this day.

#### HENRY SONNEBORN III AT SONOL OFFICE

Rudolf's active role in Sonol affairs was taken over by his cousin, Henry Sonneborn III [left], who visited Sonol's Haifa headquarters every year. Today, the company still bears the name Sonol -- as can be seen at every third gas station throughout Israel -- although the Sonneborn family gave up its holdings some years ago.

#### WOELFERSHEIM STREET

Back in Germany, in the latter part of the 19th century, the descendants of Joseph and Miryam Sonneborn scattered -- some to join new husbands or wives in their hometowns, some to seek better economic opportunities in the big cities or abroad and, much later after 1933, some to escape from Hitler's Third Reich.

#### LEVI SONNEBORN FAMILY.

In this early 1880s photograph of LEVI's family we see, back row: daughters Augusta (12), Bertha (10), Nanni (19 - from first wife): front; 2nd wife Amalie Bacharach (37), baby Samuel on lap, Siegmund (8), Ferdinand (6), Josef (3) and LEVI (47).

#### LEVI, FEIBEL AND WIVES

LEVI and his family moved to the large town of Marburg in 1891. Here in the garden of his home at Wilhestrasse 38 in 1905, brothers LEVI and FEIBEL pose with their wives, Amalia Bacharach (left) and Minna Schloss (right)



WOELFERSHEIM CEMETERY - ROSSMANN GRAVES

In 1906, JETTE, Josef and Miryam's eldest daughter, died at age 72 and was laid to rest next to her husband, Meir Rossmann, in the Woelfersheim cemetery. JETTE's brothers and sisters followed her in death; in 1911 LEVI in Marburg at age 78 and AARON in Patterson, NJ, at 66; in 1912, ISAAK died in Germany, at 69; in 1914, BETTCHEN in New York, at 76; in 1925, HANNCHEN at 77; and in 1929, FEIBEL in America at age 88.

We now turn to see what happened to their families. First, LEVI's descendants:

HILDA SONNEBORN ROTENSIES

Hilda, LEVI's eldest daughter from his first marriage, moved to Zwingenberg after her marriage to Moses Rotenseis. While most of the descendants of her eleven children now reside in America, one branch is in Argentina and one has been in Israel since the mid-1930s. Here, Hilda's granddaughters ...

(1968) LOTTE AND HERTA WEISENBACH

the Weisenbach sisters, Lotte Weinschenk and Herta Neshet, work in the garden of their Ra'anana home.

NANNI (NANNCHEN) SONNEBORN

Nanni, LEVI's second daughter with his first wife, seen here in an 1880 photograph, married Meir Herzberg and moved to Hungen.

(1916) KATZ FAMILY, KURT, MALLI, ERNST

Their daughter, Malli, married Julius Katz and had two sons, Ernst and Kurt. The family decided that the younger brother ...

KURT KATZ (1909-29) IN MEDICAL SCHOOL UNIFORM

Kurt, here pictured in his school uniform, would study medicine. Unfortunately, though he was a first-class athlete, he suffered a sports-related injury and died in 1929 at age 20.

The eldest son Ernst entered the family business. In June 1933, two months after the first Nazi boycott of Jewish businesses ...

RUDOLF SONNEBORN

Rudolf Sonneborn visited the Katz family in Hungen and wrote to a friend: "... I found Ernst Katz, the son of one of my cousins, in exceedingly difficult circumstances. I proposed that he leave for Palestine forthwith. He lives with his parents who are dealers in cattle and farm supplies, is 25 years old and is a husky, healthy and ambitious youngster. His parents have finally reconciled themselves to his going and my Uncle Ferdinand is prepared to underwrite the trip within reasonable limits."

#### ERNST KATZ FARMING;

Thus, a year or so later, Ernst moved from Hungen to a farm in Ra'anana, a bit north of Tel Aviv, and was joined there ..

#### JULIUS AND MALLI KATZ W/GRANDDAUGHTERS;

by his parents, Malli and Julius Katz, shown here about 1946 with Ernst's daughters, Yael and Ilana.

#### FIVE OF LEVI'S CHILDREN

The children of Hannah and LEVI's son, Jacques [seated left], emigrated to England and founded a flourishing British branch. Five of LEVI's six children with second wife Amalia Bacharach -- among them, shown here, Ferdinand, Samuel and Siegmund, in the back row; and Bertha, seated right -- eventually went to America; their unmarried son Josef, died in Germany, at age 30.

Sonneborn involvement in Zionism and the building of a Jewish state began early with the participation of LEVI's children -- Ferdinand, Bertha and Samuel -- in the Fifth Zionist Congress in 1901.

#### RUDOLF S, AGE 18

Rudolf at the age of 20 was the first Sonneborn to visit Eretz Israel when he came for several months in 1919 as secretary of the Zionist Commission ...

#### RUDOLF & DR. FREIDENWALD ON SHIP.

which was led by Dr. Harry Friedenwald of Baltimore, shown here with Rudolf in transit ...

The trip made a great impression on the young man. In a letter to his family, dated March 3, 1919, Rudolf wrote: ~~This~~ This is a truly wonderful country and I was never more conscious of the real value of the heritage of which we are about to again possess ourselves than now -- living right in it, breathing its air, and hearing of the wonders and possibilities in its interior."

#### SIEGMUND, JACQUES, FERDINAND SONNEBORN AT CAPURNAUM

Other Sonneborns visited from time to time. Here, Siegmund, Jacques and Ferdinand are pictured in 1934 touring the ancient synagogue at Capernaum.

Siegmund's daughter, Katharine -- known to most as 'Kitty', except for those who called her 'Mother' or 'Grandma' -- built a strong bridge between Sonneborns in Israel and America, starting with her first visit during the 1948 War of Independence and culminating with her move to Jerusalem in 1964. As she is known to most of us, we digress for a moment to tell her story. Here are her parents ...

#### CAMILLE & SIEGMUND SONNEBORN;

Camille and Siegmund, in 1906, a year after her birth, vacationing in Atlantic City.

(1907) AMALIE, RUDOLF, KATHARINE ON BEACH

As a two-year-old, Kitty frolicked on a beach in Far Rockaway, Long Island, with sister Amalie [left] and big brother Rudolf, and ...

(1910) KATHARINE

Here, at age 5, she posed for posterity ...

JOSEPHINE SONNEBORN AS A TODDLER

While younger sister Josephine enchanted the family.

AMALIE, FERDINAND & KITTY

In 1915, older sister Amalie and Kitty posed with their Uncle Ferdinand ...

(1916) SIEGMUND WITH DAUGHTER KATHARINE

And the next year we see Kitty with her father, Siegmund ...

(1916) AMALIE, SIEGMUND, JOSEPHINE, KATHARINE

And in Atlantic City with older sister Amalie, father Siegmund and sister Josephine.

(1926) KATHARINE SONNEBORN IN WEDDING DRESS

In 1926, after graduating from Wellesley College, Kitty, married Leon Falk Jr., and moved to Pittsburgh.

1200 BENNINGTON AVE.

Kitty had five children -- Ellen, Sara, Sigo, David and Susannah -- who grew up in this house in Pittsburgh, PA.

1936: FALK FAMILY PORTRAIT

and were photographed there in 1936.

FALKLANDS FARM

At Falklands, the family's large farm in central Pennsylvania, they learned horticulture, agriculture, dairy husbandry, horseback riding, tennis and swimming. In summer, the farm was a gathering place for grandparents and grandchildren, siblings and cousins.

(1962) FALK FAMILY LINE-UP

For example, this 1962 line-up of Kitty and Josephine's children and grandchildren. [L to R: Kenneth Moser, David Falk, Sigo Falk, Leon Falk Jr., Philip Heymann, Ellen Hirsch, Sara Moser, Judy Falk with Laura, Susannah Falk (Shopsin), Ann Heymann, Jean Falk, Jonathan Glick, Tim Glick, Gregory Moser, Steve Heymann, Kathy Moser, Jody Heymann, Nancy Glick, Margot Moser] Kitty's children get together from time to time.

1945: FALK CHILDREN W/MISS LYDIA

In 1945, we see them surrounding their beloved fraulein, Miss Lydia.

#### WEDDING OF SIGO FALK & JEAN DAVIS

Here they are again, at Sigo's wedding to Jean Davis.

[L to R: Susannah Falk, Steve Ross, Judy Falk, David Falk, Josephine Falk, Leon Falk Jr., Jean Falk, Sigo Falk, Katharine S. Falk, Joseph Ross, Ellen Falk Glick (Hirsch), Joseph Glick, Sara Moser, Kenneth Moser]

And now we see the five in various combinations, on different occasions ...

1978: SARA, SUSANNAH, SIGO, ELLEN, DAVID  
1980: SUSANNAH, DAVID, SIGO, SARA, ELLEN  
1991: DAVID, ELLEN, SUSANNAH, SARA, SIGO  
1992: SUSANNAH, DAVID, ELLEN, SIGO, SARA  
1993: SIGO, ELLEN, SUSANNAH, SARA, DAVID

#### SONNEBORN SIBLINGS W/CGS'

After their father Siegmund's death in 1940, the four Sonneborn children frequently visited their mother, Camille Katharine Goldschmid Sonneborn, as seen here -- Josephine, Rudolf, Kitty and Amalie.

#### PORTRAIT OF JOSEPHINE SONNEBORN

Kitty told us that when she would ask Josephine, the acknowledged beauty of the family, how it felt to be so beautiful, Josephine always answered: "I don't know. When I look in the mirror, all I see are the pimples!"

#### SOSUA PROJECT

Deeply interested in Judaism and Zionism, Kitty worked side-by-side with her husband from 1939 to 1941 at Sosua in the Dominican Republic. There she assisted in the project to settle several hundred Jewish refugees from the besieged cities of Europe on small farms, where they were expected to start life over in various agricultural enterprises. An evaluation of the Sosua project was the subject of Josephine's grandson, Nick Ross', senior thesis. Here is Nick ...

#### SOSUA SYNAGOGUE

not too many years ago in front of the synagogue at Sosua.

#### KITTY AND RUDOLF AT A MEETING (1948)

From the mid-1940s on, Kitty was involved with fact-finding and fund-raising activities for Palestine/Israel, sometimes with her brother Rudolf. She also played a part in the drama of the refugee ship "Exodus" -- which was a family affair from the start.

#### SHIP 'EXODUS'

The transformation of this old Chesapeake Bay steamer into an ocean-going ship -- outfitted to carry thousands of refugees and renamed 'Exodus', in the presence of Amalie Sonneborn Katz and her daughter, Mary -- was but one accomplishment of a vast network of assistance for the Zionist cause, code-named the 'Sonneborn Institute.' In a confidential report in 1948, its chairman Rudolf Sonneborn wrote, among other things: "In ~~to~~ we purchased 18 boats which have carried over 75,000 men, women and children 'illegally' to the shores of Palestine."

But to return to Kitty's role in the Exodus affair, as described by Hanan Aynor: "In 1946 I returned to Paris after working in America, under the nom de guerre Yacoby, after the name of my kibbutz, Ashdot Yaacov! One day I received an urgent cable from Rudolf -- 'My sister Katharine is staying at the Plaza Athenee. Please take care of her.' I phoned, and a very deep voice answered me, 'Yes.' and I said, 'Please give me Mrs. Falk,' and the voice said, 'Yes.' I said 'Why don't you give me Mrs. Falk?' and the deep voice said, 'I am Mrs. Falk!' So I went to her hotel. I didn't know Kitty, but as I waited in the lobby I didn't see anyone who reminded me of a very wealthy American cousin. But in the lobby was a slim, good-looking woman in an trenchcoat also looking for someone, and it was Kitty."

#### SHIP 'EXODUS'

"A few weeks later I got orders to go to Marseilles to deal with the three Exodus boats with almost 5,000 people on board which had been turned back by the British. Kitty was then in Italy visiting Displaced Persons camps. I contacted her and said: 'You're here in Europe to see what's going on with refugees. Come to Marseille.' And she did. We went every morning at 5 o'clock down to where the ships were anchored. I organized the food and the doctors and so forth. I told her she could be very helpful solving one particular problem. On those boats were 1,400 religious teenagers, who would not eat anything because the food wasn't kosher. The Joint was the only organization in France which had kosher food but it didn't cooperate with us -- the Haganah -- because we were illegals. So Kitty got on the phone to Rudolf and others, and when they heard what was going on, they threatened to run their own fund-raising appeal on the matter. It took about 48 hours until those gentlemen at the Joint made up their minds and began sending kosher food. Now this is something Kitty did singlehandedly."

After earning a Master's Degree in Judaic Studies from Brandeis University in 1959, Kitty began preparing for her aliyah, making frequent trips to Israel, including this one in 1963 ...

(1963) KSF GREETED BY BORDER POLICE AT MANDELBAUM GATE  
when she travelled all around the world to visit the Western  
Wall -- which was then in Jordan and banned to visitors from  
Israel. She entered Israel from Jordan through the  
Mandelbaum Gate, where she was welcomed by Israeli border  
police...

(1963) SARAH AYNOR GREETING KSF AT MANDELBAUM  
Sarah Aynor and other family members ...

In 1964, Kitty settled in Jerusalem and purchased ...

#### HOUSE AT 14 AMINADAV

this 300-year-old Arab house in Abu Tor, reputed to have been  
the house of generations of local sheikhs. Here she spent,  
in her words, ~~"the most exciting and interesting life"~~

#### KSF IN COFFEE AD.

Kitty began her public career in the early 1930s, as we see  
in this advertisement endorsing Beech Nut Coffee.

#### (1962) KSF WITH GOLDA

Here she is with a series of Zionist notables, at least one  
with whom she enjoyed a good laugh:

#### (1962) KSF WITH GOLDA

Two Israeli presidents welcomed her ...

#### (1964) KSF WITH ZALMAN SHAZAR

Zalman Shazar in 1964 ...

#### (1976) KSF WITH EPHRIAM KATZIR

and Ephriam Katzir in 1976 ...

#### KSF WITH PM YITZHAK RABIN & ALEX LOWENTHAL

and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, then in 1975, -- and now,  
[Pittsburgher Alex Lowenthal is in center] ...

#### KSF WITH TEDDY KOLLEK

and with Teddy Kollek at the dedication of the Community  
Center Beit Nehemia in Abu Tor which Kitty helped renovate,  
as, she explained, ~~"to keep the neighborhood children busy so~~  
they'll stop vandalizing my house and garden."

#### OPPENHEIMER HOUSE IN GEISSEN

JETTE'S family took a somewhat different path. Her eldest  
daughter Hilda Rossmann Kaufmann had five children: four  
perished in the Holocaust and one managed to emigrate to  
America. However, several of her grandchildren left Germany  
for the United States in the late 1930s, and one, Menahem  
Kaufman, lives in Israel.

Menahem spent his childhood in Geinsheim where his father Albert settled in 1920 after his marriage to Hedwig Mai and opened a small shop selling shoes and clothing. Menahem describes his father: "He was a religious Jew and a German patriot -- a handsome man who served three years in the cavalry of the Prussian army. He fought on the western front from 1914 to 1917, was captured by the French and only returned home in 1920. ... Until 1933 he identified himself as totally German. However, in 1935, my father felt that Germany had rejected him, and from that moment his only identification was as a Jew."

JETTE's next daughter ...

OLGA ROSSMANN SONNEBORN WITH SON, LEO

Olga, shown here in Woelfersheim with her son Leo, we'll discuss together with her husband ISAAK Sonneborn.

(1897) HERMANN ROSSMANN FAMILY

JETTE's only son Hermann is seen in this 1897 photo in the back row with his son Fritz, who 45 years later perished in the Holocaust; seated are, from left to right, daughter Recha, wife Jettchen, and twins -- Leopold, who was killed in the first World War, and Kaufmann, who served in the German army in the First World War and was killed by the Nazis during the Second.

As loyal citizens of Germany, the Sonneborn men were proud to serve in the German army:

(c.1916) ROSSMANN BROTHERS IN UNIFORM

In 1916, Fritz (left) and Kaufmann Rossmann (right) pose for a family picture while on leave. Cousin Leo Sonneborn is in the center next to sister Recha. The middle child is Shimon -- then Fritz -- son of ...

OPPENHEIMER HOUSE IN WOELFERSHEIM

Hermann's eldest daughter, Recha and her husband Salli Oppenheimer, who lived in this house in Woelfersheim until...

OPPENHEIMER HOUSE IN GIESSEN

the family moved to an eight-room flat on the second floor of this house in the large town of Giessen ...

RECHA OPPENHEIMER WITH SHIMON AND YOHANAN

Here Recha, raised her sons, Yohanan and Shimon.

AUGUSTE ROSSMANN STERN & ISAAK

JETTE's daughter, Auguste, shown here with her husband, Isaak Stern, also lived in Giessen, residing in this house

ISAAK AND AUGUSTE ROSSMANN'S HOUSE IN GIESSEN

from 1900 to 1932. Here they brought up their nine children, including a set of twins.

**BERTA STERN GRUNEBERG AND RUTH**

Auguste's eldest daughter, Bertha, married Karl Gruneberg and moved to Seigburg, a small town near Bonn, where their three children, Ilse (now Ruth), Alice (now Yehudit) and Hans (now Hanan) were born. Ruth, pictured here with her mother, tells of her early years: [redacted] the edge of town, in the only residential apartment in a red brick factory building. All my friends were Christian. We never felt antisemitism. ... My mother and father had worked in a big store buying and selling carpets and curtains, and their good taste was reflected in everything. Even more important was the serenity in our home. I never heard my parents quarrel. Although we did not have a great deal of money, our parents never let us feel the lack of anything. The food was especially delicious. We felt that Mother poured a generous portion of love into every dish. I emphasize this to describe the warm and secure environment in which we were raised. I don't know how I would have endured all the difficulties I encountered later without this "equipment." I thank my parents for it."

Ruth's brother, Hanan Gruneberg adds: "I attended a Jewish elementary school for eight years. All classes from the first to the eighth grades were in one room with one teacher. This hindered our learning somewhat, but later I was able to catch up on everything I had missed." ... Auguste and Isaak Stern's twin sons were born in 1891.

**HERMANN STERN**

Hermann died of TB at age 29, as a result of the First World War. The other twin, Julius, and his first wife Johanna Kaminka had two children ...

**(1924) YOSSEI AND SONYA STERN**

Helmut (today Yosef -- Yossi) and Sonya (Porat), born in 1921-22, respectively, in ...

**POSTCARD OF STERN APARTMENT IN GIESSEN**

Giessen. The family's second floor apartment was in the elegant building on the left, renovated in the early 17th century and completely destroyed in the Second World War.

Sonya tells us: [redacted] with our mother's parents in a large building. The family's dry goods shop was on the first floor. Grandfather managed the store while our father Julius and his brother Fritz went out to sell cloth to people in the surrounding villages.

**YOSSEI, ESTHER AND SONYA STERN**

"My mother died when I was a year old and my father married Klara Thalheimer a year later. Klara raised us, along with our half-sister Esther, who was born in 1926. Since our family was Orthodox, we kept a kosher kitchen, attended ...



#### GIESSEN SYNAGOGUE,

synagogue in Giessen [Sonya is shown at left] and observed all the holidays. Every Shabbat, Grandfather blessed all the children. Ours was also a Zionist home. When I was ten, I joined the religious Zionist youth movement which trained us for life in Eretz Israel, 'to build the country and be built by it.' At 12, I was already a counselor. We collected money for the Keren Kayemet (JNF), heard lectures, saw films, and tried influencing other kids to join our group. It was a wonderful time. After graduating from public elementary school, I studied home economics and cooking, which served me well later during difficult times."

Sonya, Yossi and Esther often met their cousin ...

#### ROLF BEIFUS, SONYA PORAT, YOSSIE STERN, ESTHER

Rolf (Rafael) Beifus, son of Auguste's daughter Hedwig, at left ... Recalling his childhood, Rafael tells us: "I was born in Giessen in 1921. Ours was a typical German-Jewish home. My parents had married immediately after my father's return from the front in World War I. They considered Germany their homeland and themselves as Germans. My parents were religious, but not extremists. I belonged to the Jewish scouts but later switched, along with most of my friends, to a religious Zionist youth movement. ... Relations in our family were very close."

JETTE'S youngest daughter, Dorchen, married her cousin Ludwig/Theodor Rossmann and lived in this ...

#### HOUSE OF DORCHEN ROSSMANN IN WOELFERSHEIM

house in Woelfersheim. Just before the outbreak of World War Two in 1939 we see ...

#### DORCHEN AND OLGA IN FRONT OF SHOP

Dorchen with Olga in front of Berthold's butcher shop -- note that its name has been crossed out. Soon after Dorchen, here with ...

#### DORCHEN ROSSMAN AND GRANDSON

grandson Kurt, fled with her son Julius to New York.

Josef and Miryam's fourth child, BETTCHEN (1838-1914), married Abraham Lowenstein and lived in Breidenbach, where her 12 children were born. Both Bettchen and her husband died in New York before World War I. Although we have no information on this branch, we assume that most of the descendants are in the United States.

The fifth child of Josef and Miryam, FIEBEL (1841-1929), married Minna Schloss, and lived in Breidenbach, where their six children were born.

#### MARGOT BLOCH ROTEN

The descendants of five of these offspring live today in America, including Feibel's granddaughter, Margot Bloch Roten, who celebrated her 90th birthday last January in New York. Nida Bernstein tells us: "Margot's first husband was Julius Roten, her cousin. When he came over to America, Julius lived at AARON's house, a pattern often repeated as family newcomers moved in with those who had preceded them, until they were able to manage on their own."

ISAAK's descendants are spread today over four continents, from Carrie Sonneborn in Australia ...

#### CARRIE SONNEBORN IN AUSTRALIA,

shown here in the outback ... a branch in Chile, a number of families in the United States and many more in Israel. Of these we shall learn more later.

AARON Sonneborn was the first of his generation to emigrate to America. He was followed by BETTCHEN and FEIBEL at later dates.

#### HANNCHEN SONNEBORN KATZ,

HANNCHEN, Josef and Miryam's youngest child, married Joel Katz and moved from Breidenbach to her husband's hometown, Lauterbach, where her three children were born. The youngest, Moritz Katz, turned to his mother's family to find a bride, Martha Stern, granddaughter of (his mother's sister) JETTE SONNEBORN ROSSMANN. The young couple moved to Berlin and had three children. In 1932, Martha's parents, Augusta Rossmann and Isaak Stern, left their Giessen home and moved in with their daughter's family in Berlin.

\* \* \*

#### (1927) HERMANN ROSSMANN FAMILY:

At this 1927 Stern-Rossmann family gathering we see three of the Stern sisters: at left rear, Irma Stern Fuchs and Hedwig Stern Beifus; and third from right, rear, Martha Stern Katz; their uncle Hermann Rossmann and their mother Augusta Rossmann Stern are to the right. The boy in the middle is Shimon Oppenheimer. Seated below are: Yohanan, Shimon's younger brother, then called Leo Hans; Martha Katz's son Herbert, who died of polio; Hedwig's son Rafael, then Rolf, Beifus; and Martha's other son Horst who went with his father, Moritz, in the mid-1930s to prepare a home for the family in Bogata, Columbia.

During the late 1930s, Martha Stern Katz took into her home several Sonneborn youngsters who were in Berlin attending special courses to prepare German Jewish youth for life in Eretz Israel.

Manfred Speyer remembers: "Jacques (Sonneborn) arranged for me to stay with our relatives, Martha Stern and her husband, Moritz Katz, who was mostly out of town. I had a nice time with their daughter, Annelore, who later perished in the Holocaust along with her mother and grandmother."

Sonya Stern Porat tells us: "I came to Berlin to say goodbye to my grandparents, who lived there with their daughter, Martha. These were unforgettable days. Cousin Annelore walked with me for hours proudly showing me all around her beautiful city."

After the war, Moritz Katz returned from Bogata to Europe and searched in vain for his wife and daughter. With luck he located Martha's widowed sister, Irma Stern Fuchs ...

IRMA STERN FURT KATZ:  
in a hospital in Holland. She was very ill, but thanks to the new wonder drug penicillin, she recovered. Moritz and Irma were married and returned to Bogata, where Moritz's son, Horst was already settled with his wife and two children.

But we've jumped ahead of our story.

[SLIDE SHOW II]

#### STORM CLOUDS<sup>1</sup>

Like an impending storm, a world economic crisis in the late 1920s generated growing popular support for fascist ideologies in parts of Europe. Riding the wave of these sentiments, Adolf Hitler seized power in Germany in 1933. For the country's half million Jews, the takeover by the antisemitic Nazi regime heralded the collapse of German Jewish life. Menahem Kaufman assessed its impact on the rural Jews of Hessen: "Antisemitism in everyday life continued to mount, and practically everyone sensed that something ominous was about to take place, but most Jews did nothing, as they did not believe the Nazi threats. They felt thoroughly German, part of the cultured German civilization of the 20th century -- but they were wrong. In the 1930 presidential elections, Hindenburg defeated Hitler by a very small majority. My parents were extremely worried. We felt the growing hatred; it was hard to believe that our friends of yesterday were suddenly Jew-haters -- but it was a fact."

However, slowly but surely, the lives of Germany's Jews were affected. At first they were ousted from local organizations like sports and cultural clubs, and then banned from places of public entertainment. A boycott of Jewish businesses was declared in April 1933.

#### NAZI WITH SIGN:

Two months later Rudolf Sonneborn was in Europe to attend a petroleum industry conference. His uncle in New York, Julius Roten, asked Rudolf to visit his siblings and report on their situations under the new Nazi regime.

#### RUDOLF SONNEBORN

In a hope-for-the-best kind of letter, Rudolf wrote to Julius on 7 June 1933: "I finished my tour of the entire family. The situation is lousy in the extreme and from present indications shows little hope of betterment."

His first visit was to Julius' sister Frieda Rotensies Josef. "Adolf continues to transact his business. But, about six weeks ago several non-local Nazis attempted to enter the house, and on being told by Adolf that he would not open his door except to the police, they broke one of the front windows and climbed in. Then they told Adolf to go with them to the town hall where one of Adolf's friends, a leading Nazi, asked him to sign a paper agreeing to do nothing to oppose the new regime, in return for which his family and his property would be protected. Needless to say, Adolf signed it promptly, thanked them and went home. Since then all has been quiet."

#### NAZI DOCUMENT.

Of Lina Rotensies and her husband Louis Weisenbach, [parents of Herta Nesher] Rudolf reported: "I made the rounds of Zwingenbourg, which is a Nazi hotbed. Louis is earning absolutely nothing. Lina's oldest daughter, Ilse, who is by the way extremely attractive, has lost her position. All the marks of the recent shooting remain on the house and there can be no doubt about the malicious intent."

#### RUDOLF SONNEBORN

On his visit to Julius's sister Johanna Reiling, Rudolf reported: "The Reilings have suffered tremendously from the aftermath of the boycott. None of the officials of the new party who formerly purchased at their store dare come near it. ... So far, the Reiling children have some amusing tales to tell from school. The best was the history teacher who announced that it had just been ascertained from German archives that a representative of International Jewry had written a personal letter to the Kaiser in 1914 ordering him to start the War! The children do well at singing Nazi songs which, by the way, are damn good and much peppier than the old "Wacham Rhine."

#### NAZI RALLY.

Menahem Kaufman comments, "After 1934 came the torch parades, Hitler's speeches on the radio and the burning of the Reichstag (Germany's parliament). In Geinsheim our fellow townspeople eagerly transferred their loyalty to the Nazi party. Early in 1934, my father was brutally attacked. Then a Nazi gang threw heavy stones at our house, some breaking the shop window and others landing in our bedroom. We children cried and our parents called for help. The mob laughed with glee. After this night of terror, my parents decided to move to the town of Gross Gerau nearby."

#### SETTIE

Settie Sonneborn, daughter-in-law of ISAAK and Olga Rossmann Sonneborn, lives today at age 96 in Youngstown, Ohio. When asked how she knew they had to leave Germany, she explained: "We were married in 1929 and Hitler came in 1933. Yes, that's why we don't have children. Conditions were so bad already. All the 'Hitlers' [Nazis] wanted to kill the Jews. We had a customer who was Hitler's admiral. He was from Frankfurt, where we have our business. One night he came just before we closed, and said, 'Mrs. Sonneborn, go with me to dinner. I have to tell you something.' So I said, 'We can go, sure.' So we went in the neighborhood for dinner. He said, 'I am a Hitler, so you know what I want to talk to you about. I have a lot of Jewish friends, but I'm a Hitler, and I want to tell you -- go, the sooner the better.'"

**SAMUEL SONNEBORN W/RUTH KUGELMAN**

Samuel Sonneborn, here in 1948 with granddaughter Ruth Amalie Kugelman, observed: "Many members of the Sonneborn families fortunately escaped the atrocities of the Hitler period." Of Josef and Miryam's children -- AARON, FEIBEL, BETTCHEN and some of LEVI's offspring had already emigrated to the United States in previous decades.

**LEVI SONNEBORN**

Of the descendants of LEVI, shown here, who were visited in Germany by Rudolf, all left the country and settled elsewhere in safety.

Of the rest of LEVI's family: Jacques' children went to England;

**LUX SONNEBORN**

Bertha's son, Lux, shown here in his club's fencing outfit, lived in various European countries before settling in New York; Samuel left Europe in 1934, was interned in England and arrived in New York after the war.

**TREE OF LEVI'S DESCENDANTS**

All of LEVI's descendants escaped the Holocaust, 46 of whom came to Jerusalem from America for the 1994 Sonneborn Family Reunion to join another 15 LEVI-ites living in Israel.

**SPRENDLINGEN**

Of JETTE's children: out of six, three -- Hilda Kaufmann, Auguste Stern and Lina Stein -- perished in Nazi concentration camps, as did many of their offspring. Daughters Olga Sonneborn and Dorchon Rossmann emigrated to America, while son Hermann Rossmann lived out his days in Israel. Hilda Kaufmann's son, Leopold, married his second cousin, Hilda Sonneborn, daughter of JETTE's brother ISAAK and JETTE's daughter Olga. Their grandson Stan Finkelstein tells us:

"My grandparents lived in Sprendlingen, near Frankfurt.

**LEOPOLD AND HILDA SONNEBORN KAUFMAN**

"Hilda and Leopold's home was rich in learning, steeped in Jewish commitment and a gathering place for open discussions. Without question, my grandfather, who was the principal of the town's high school and editor of the local Jewish paper, was the strong family patriarch while my grandmother was the traditional Jewish wife. Sadly, they both died in Auschwitz in 1942. Their three children managed to emigrate to the United States in the late 1930s."

**JUDITH AND WILLI KAUFMANN**

"Daughter Judith, here with her husband, Willi Kaufmann, left their home in Frankfurt with their daughter, Hildegard, and moved to Newark, New Jersey.

#### KORA AND 'MIKE' KAUFMANN

"Son Meier 'Mike', here with his wife Kora, settled in Chicago, IL, where he worked as a buyer for a department store chain.

#### (1960s) MIRIAM AND ISAAK FINKELSTEIN

"Hilda and Leopold's youngest, Miriam Finkelstein, is with us today with her dear friend Erna Becker of her former hometown Sprendlingen. Miriam and Isaak were married in Germany. They emigrated to Newark where Isaak was employed as a furrier and Miriam, after their two sons were grown, worked in a large department store."

Of ISAAK's descendants: one branch resides in Chile, one in Australia and several in Israel, while the rest live in the United States.

#### OLGA KNITTING

ISAAK's second wife Olga Rossmann Sonneborn was widowed in 1912 at age 54. She is remembered as the pillar of the family in Woelfersheim. Everyone sought her advice -- no one dared disobey her. Her home was the center of family activity, and her birthdays occasioned yearly pilgrimages from near and far. Hanan Aynor recalled: ~~Isaak's birthday~~ was in January. I would go with my mother to the Frankfurt train station at three o'clock in the morning. It was bitter cold. Finally we arrived at Woelfersheim and dozens of people were already there" ... like at this celebration in 1921 ...

#### OLGA'S BIRTHDAY

Kurt Sonneborn remembers, "It was perhaps a 10-minute walk to reach Oma's house, where we were greeted by the matriarch herself. The guests gathered in the kitchen and sat on both sides of a long table exchanging news, opinions and gossip. During and after the special birthday dinner, the children were expected to recite poetry. I remember memorizing poems about grandmothers and was very proud when my recitations received an extra round of applause. In the evening we changed into pajamas in the kitchen because the bedrooms were icy cold. But when we climbed into bed and burrowed under the foot-thick, goose-down covers, we were toasty warm."

Hanan commented, "And how did we sleep? There were no hotels -- five in a bed, six in a bed -- incredible!"

#### (1929) FAMILY WITH GOAT

After Olga's daughter Malli Hirsch emigrated to America, she visited her mother in Woelfersheim, as seen in this 1929 photo: [Back row] Emma, ISAAK's daughter with his first wife; Malli Hirsch, an unidentified person, and her brother Berthold; in front: Olga and two grandchildren; Manfred Speyer, son of Lina, and American-born Mildred Hirsch, Malli's daughter.

In 1930 Siegmund Sonneborn wrote his son Rudolf: ~~"We visited~~, Olga Sonneborn and found her living with her younger son Berthold, a butcher. He is, if anything, taller than you, over 6'4", and more muscular. His daughters, Margot and Irma

**MARGOT AND IRMA SONNEBORN**

[left and right, respectively] ... girls of about 18 or 20, are beautiful strong girls that pleased my masculine taste!"

**OLGA ROSSMANN**

This 1930s picture shows Margot and Olga's son Leo in the back row; Irma, Olga, Leo's wife Settie, a friend, Berthold's wife Bertha, and Aliza Rossmann.

Shortly thereafter, Olga, then almost 80 years old, emigrated with Berthold and his family to America. They settled in the Bronx where Olga died in 1943 at age 85 and Berthold in 1959 at age 76.

**(1960s) BERTHOLD SONNEBORN FAMILY WITH AYNOR**

Here in the early '60s we see: Back row: 3rd from left Irma's husband, Norbert Hess; their daughter Karen; Irma; and their son Kenneth. Front row: Hanan Aynor's daughter, Yael, Berthold's older brother, Herbert Sonneborn, his mother Toni, Berthold's widow Bertha, and Sarah, Hanan and Amos Aynor.

Olga had two sets of twins: the younger set, Lina Speyer and Adolf Sonneborn, perished in the Holocaust; the older pair, Leo Sonneborn and Malli Hirsch, emigrated to the United States. They are shown here in 1971 with Leo's wife Settie celebrating their 80th birthdays,

**(1971) 80TH BIRTHDAY OF LEO AND MOLLY**

Settie tells of her and Leo's arrival in New York in 1940, after a spending a year in England: ~~my~~ my Leo's twin, and her husband, Max Hirsch picked us up. We were a whole year with them in New York. Leo, who was a pattern cutter, couldn't join the union. He had twice a job, but he didn't have a number. So he had to leave his job. Leo hated New York. One day he picked me up at work and said, 'Settie, I went to Ferdinand Sonneborn today and told him I want a job.' He said to me, 'Leo, if you go out of New York, you can find a job easy.' And he said he had given the resettlement (maybe HIAS ?) \$50,000 yesterday. So Ferdinand called somebody and they said they had a job for Leo. He was so happy that the job was in Cleveland where he had a friend. So we went to Cleveland where they tell us that Cleveland and Youngstown were one big settlement. The job is in Youngstown. But Leo said, 'I have a friend in Cleveland. Couldn't I stay here?' The man said, 'Leo, you want a job? Youngstown is a very friendly town.' So the next morning we went to Youngstown and Leo had a job, 23 years in one place."



(1987) GROUP IN FLORIDA:

Malli and Max Hirsch's two American-born daughters, Mildred Goldberg (second from left) and Rita Adler, (second from right) are seen here with their first cousins: Irma Hess, Miriam Finkelstein, Milton Sonneborn and Hanan Aynor.

Olga and ISAAK's son, Karl, is shown here, third from left ..

KARL SONNEBORN ...

back row, in 1928 on a visit to Woelfersheim. The others -- Emma, Toni (Hermann Sonneborn's widow), Ella, Irma (Hess), Rita Adler, Emma, Malli (Hirsch); in front, Settie, Mildred Goldberg, Manfred Speyer, Margot (Baum). Karl and his family eventually arrived in America.

Karl's son, Kurt Sonneborn tells us: "I was born in Frankfurt in 1923. My father came from Woelfersheim. My mother came from another small village. I was 10 when the Nazis came to power. The next year my parents transferred me to a Jewish school where I learned about Zionism and joined the Zionist youth movement. In the fall of 1936, my father told me that a rich uncle in America would send me for a few months to a school in Berlin. If I passed the required tests, the same rich uncle would pay for my passage, tuition, room and board for a two-year stay in a similar school in Palestine. I agreed immediately since the adventure of a long trip appealed to me, and I had become by that time an ardent Zionist. In the end I was accepted and, in May 1937, I left Germany for Palestine, together with my cousin Manfred (Menahem Kaufman) ...

(1937) KURT SONNEBORN AND MENAHEM KAUFMAN

Here is Kurt, at left, and Menahem, at right, at the Ahava Institute near Haifa, where they studied agriculture and other subjects. Kurt concludes: "Several months after I left, my parents and brother went to the United States." ...

Kurt served in the British army from 1942 to 1946, after which he joined his mother, by then divorced, and brother in America.

HANNCHEN's branch resides today in Bogata, Colombia.

We have now met some of the Sonneborns who fled Nazi Germany and settled in England and the Americas. What about those who remained in Germany?

WOELFERSHEIM SIGN

Samuel Sonneborn comments, "Far too many perished in the infamous Nazi concentration camps. Though Germany had been the birthplace of Sonneborns for centuries, by 1945 none were left there."

JOE AND ANN ROSS AT VALLEY OF DESTROYED COMMUNITIES.

And now begins a story of terrible times and difficult decisions.

**SIEGMUND SONNEBORN: 1934 '**

In a letter dated 23 October 1935, Siegmund Sonneborn wrote to his son Rudolf: "My friend Henry is sick from the news conveyed by his sister from Bavaria, who specially travelled to Strasbourg to write him the truth. In many small places, German Jews can now no longer buy either bread or other foodstuffs and even the pharmacists are instructed not to sell them medicines. It seems to me that under these circumstances a decisive moment of questioning has come: Are we going to do something worthwhile for at least the children of the family or not?"

Meanwhile, a few families and individuals were granted certificates to enter Palestine --

From the LEVI branch, the Weisenbach and Katz families settled on farms in Ra'anana and received occasional small checks from Siegmund.

**RAHELI WEIN, CURT S., HERTA AND MAX NESHER AT REUNION**

Nearly 60 years later, some of Levi's descendants met each other for the first time in Jerusalem. Here Samuel's son, Curt Sonneborn of California, poses with Hilda's granddaughter, Herta Weisenbach [2nd from right], her husband, Max Neshet, and their daughter Raheli Wein.

**ERNST & GRETE KATZ**

And here we see Ernst and Grete Katz in a recent photograph.

From JETTE's branch, Ruth Gruneberg preceded her sister and brother to the country, settling at Kibbutz Ein Gev..

**(1980) SHIMON OPPENHEIMER**

Shimon Oppenheimer, also JETTE's descendant -- this photo was taken in 1980 -- arrived in Eretz Israel with his youth group on a "halutz" (pioneer) certificate in 1935.

**SHIMON SHOMER AT KIBBUTZ HAZOREA**

Committed to building a socialist society as a fulfillment of Zionism, Shimon and his group were among the founding members of Kibbutz Hazorea. Here Shimon patrols the borders of the new settlement in the Jezreel Valley.

**YOHANAN OPPENHEIMER**

His younger brother, Yohanan, left Germany through Youth Aliya, and after finishing a training period at Sarid, he also joined Kibbutz Hazorea and raised his family there. In recent years, Yohanan has made great efforts to ensure the preservation of Woelfersheim's Jewish cemetery, maintaining contact with the local authorities and making annual visits to the family's graves.

#### OPPENHEIMER FAMILY:

Shimon and Yohanan's parents, Recha and Salli Oppenheimer, settled in Herzliya in 1935 and were joined there by Recha's father, Hermann Rossmann. Here we see the family; Rear: Shimon's wife, Hannah Cohen, grandfather Hermann, and mother Recha: front, Shimon, father Salli and Yohanan.

#### SHIMON OPPENHEIMER IN U.S.

In 1956 Shimon travelled to America to purchase cattle for the kibbutz dairy. His interest in archaeology and art led to a lifelong commitment to developing Hazorea's museum. Shimon, Hannah and Yohanan celebrated Hazorea's jubilee year in 1985 with much satisfaction: While they had started married life in a one-room flat ...

#### HAZOREA HOUSES.

their children live in modern homes like these. For many members of the Sonneborn family, the Oppenheimer's warm hospitality enhanced their encounter with kibbutz life -- whether as visitor or volunteer, including, at various times, Elke Aynor, an "ulpanist", and volunteers Tim Glick, Lynne Hirsch and Ellie Falk Young, who each did whatever they were told to do for over a month.

#### BACHAD YOUTH MOVEMENT

Back to Germany in the mid-1930s: As opportunities for normal life were being systematically restricted, many of the family's young people joined pioneering Zionist youth groups and prepared for life in Eretz Israel at Hachshara camps in Germany. Here we see Irmgard Sonneborn -- Yehudit Kallner -- (2nd from left, rear), who was 23 years old when this picture was taken in 1935 of some members of Bachad -- a religious Zionist youth group. Here also are the 14-year-old cousins -- Helmut (Yossi) Stern, 3rd from left, rear, and Rolf (Rafael) Beifuss, right.

#### YEHUDIT KALLNER

Yehudit, shown here just before she went to Eretz Israel in 1936 on an official certificate, was among the early members of Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu in the sweltering hot Beit She'an valley.

#### HANAN AYNOR -- EARLY PORTRAIT

Hans (Hanan) Sonneborn arrived in the country in 1935, also on his own. However, he had been indoctrinated into the Zionist youth movement earlier and younger than most. He tells us how it happened:

"My father died when I was seven. When I was growing up in Frankfurt, I was in a gang; we were all around 6-to-10 years old and we stole here and we stole there. I never knew what to do with the damn things. We stole from department stores, and then we gave the things to the leader -- he was a real criminal. But I liked the excitement. One day our gang leader -- he must have been 14 or 15 -- decided to raid a large factory which made film. As I was the smallest one,

they put me over a huge wall, and I had to find the door and let the rest of the gang in. Believe me, I didn't know what I was doing -- but I liked doing it! Suddenly a lot of dogs were barking and people were yelling and my fellow gang members were shouting 'Come on, quickly, stay behind us.' Somehow I got over the wall, and started to run with a policeman right behind me. I got rid of the policeman, arrived home and told Mother, 'I don't feel so well,' and went to bed. A half hour later someone rings the bell. It was the policeman, and he told Mother what I had been doing. And Mother was -- unimaginable. Her solution was to call her nephew in Mainz. She said, 'Ted, you have to come right away and save my son.' And Ted, a very sporty-looking fellow, came. He sat my mother down and said, 'That boy has to go to a youth movement.' So which youth movement? 'My own - a group called Kadima.' So I joined a Zionist youth movement, and my criminal past was behind me!"

When Hanan arrived in Eretz Israel in 1935 and joined Kibbutz Ashdot Yaakov. His family contact was cousin Jenny Sonneborn Rosenblatt in Tel Aviv, who came to his aid more than once. Hanan embodied the ideal Zionist "halutz" - pioneer... In the searing, oppressive heat of the Jordan Valley ...

#### QUARRY

he quarried stones for building ...

#### ROADBUILDING

helped lay new roads ...

#### WATER PIPES

and installed water pipes at the kibbutz.

Educating youth was one of Hanan's priorities ...

#### KINNERET MARCH

as we see him leading a group from Ashdot Yaakov in a march around Lake Kinneret...

#### KINNERET MARCH

#### MARCH TO PEKI'IN

and as they hike to Peki'in ...

#### HANAN ON HORSEBACK -- JORDAN VALLEY

Here is Hanan on patrol near Ashdot Yaakov in the Jordan Valley, with the hills of Moab in the background.

Hanan served with the British army in France. The moment the war was over, he joined the Haganah, the Palestine-based Jewish underground movement, which was then operating also in Europe. After Israel became a state, Hanan entered the foreign service, holding senior posts in Canada, Brazil, at the United Nations in New York...

#### AYNOR AT UN

where he seems to be the only one watching the photographer  
...

#### AFRICAN DIPLOMATS AT UN

and here talking with the African diplomats so friendly to Israel during the 1960s, who heard him out ...

#### FOREIGN MINISTER OF IVORY COAST

and here, coached by Hanan, is the Foreign Minister of the Ivory Coast, who would help plead Israel's case with other countries. Hanan served as Israel's ambassador in Senegal ...

#### HANAN PRESENTING CREDENTIALS IN SENEGAL

presenting his credentials to Leopold Sedar Senghor at the Presidential Palace in Dakar in 1964 ...

#### HANAN AYNOR IN ETHIOPIA

and in Ethiopia in the early 1970s, here presenting his credentials to Haile Selassie in Addis Ababa.

Hanan's last ambassadorial post was in Mexico ...

#### HANAN, KATZIR AND MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERIA

He is shown here at a reception for visiting Mexican president Echeveria hosted by Israeli president Katzir. ... Hanan came out of retirement to serve for a few months in Zaïre only four summers ago.

When he was at the home office, Hanan promoted Israel-Africa relations, often enabling Africans to attend special courses in Israel, such as this group ...

#### STUDENTS FROM FRENCH NEW GUINEA AND BEN-GURION

of students from French New Guinea being congratulated by Prime Minister Ben-Gurion. Here, at the reception honoring Hanan at his retirement from the Foreign Ministry ...

#### HANAN AND FM SHAMIR AT RETIREMENT

then Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir congratulates him for his many years of distinguished service in Israel's diplomatic corps.

After this glimpse into the near past, we return again to Siegmund's 1935 letter dealing with the worrisome news from Germany, in which he writes:

#### SIEGMUND SONNEBORN

It seems to me that we should pool a definite sum and form a Benevolent Foundation and bring German children under 17 years to Palestine under the guidance of Henrietta Szold. Her sister told me that Henrietta's department takes \$625 a child from 15 to 17 years of age, to take it out of Germany and keep it for 2 years in Erez, training it in the meanwhile for productive labor... Our group ought to make it its sacred

duty to bring the children of the Sonneborn, Stern and related families out of that misery into some land of hope, and Palestine is certainly the best equipped because, as I understand it, as soon as the children grow up and are successfully launched and settled, they can call for their parents. That may be a 4 or 5 year process, but nevertheless it is a definite process and the parents know where to go."

#### YOUTH GROUP

In Germany in 1935, Jewish children could no longer attend public school. Parents switched the younger ones to Jewish schools and seriously considered the option being offered by the Sonneborn family abroad to send their teenagers to Palestine via Youth Aliya.

#### NUREMBERG LAWS

Menahem Kaufman tells of this period: "When the Nuremberg laws were enacted in September 1935, my father joined the German Zionist organization, ZVFD, and we youngsters became members of the Zionist Maccabi youth group. During the preceding two-three years, my father had tried to emigrate to South America. Naturally he preferred the United States or Palestine, but at the time there was no possibility for poor families to emigrate, unless American relatives signed affidavits -- but in our case they did not do it. My father then decided to send us children out of Germany by ourselves, thus saving our lives. In 1937 I went to Eretz Israel with Youth Aliya; my brother went to the United States the next year on a 'Kindertransport.'"

#### GROUP WITH LINA SPEYER

Back in Woelfersheim with Olga's family. In front, Olga sits between ISAAK's daughters from his first marriage, Emma and Jettchen; in the rear, is Olga's daughter Malli, a friend at right, and another daughter, Lina Speyer, at left. Lina had two children, Manfred and Ilse.

Manfred Speyer tells of his early experiences: "When our life in Germany became unsettled, disrupted and dangerous, we debated what to do. Sixteen-year-olds like me had been expelled from school and were unable to find work. The deciding factor was a letter from Jacques Sonneborn ...

#### SONNEBORN HOUSE IN HAMBURG

who lived in this elegant house in Hamburg, which announced a plan to send all the Sonneborn children to Palestine through Youth Aliya, directed at that time by Baltimorean Henrietta Szold, a close family friend. Gisela Warburg, another family friend, was the Youth Aliya director in Berlin. I believe that the Szold-Warburg-Sonneborn connection was a central factor in saving many youth of the extended Sonneborn family."

**LETTER FROM WARBURG TO SZOLD**

Here we see a letter referring to teenager Helmut (Yossi) Stern, written by Gisela Warburg in Berlin to Miss Szold at the Central Bureau for the Settlement of German Jews in Jerusalem.

Manfred Speyer continues: "My parents secured a place for me on the Sonneborn list; Gisela Warburg summoned me to Berlin; and Jacques arranged for me to stay with our relatives, Martha Stern Katz. After spending three months taking various Zionist-oriented courses, I was sent to a Hachshara camp. In July 1937 I said goodbye to my parents and 12-year-old sister Ilse. I did not know then that I would never see them again. I travelled by boat, alone because I had been sick when my cousins Kurt Sonneborn and Manfred (Menahem) Kaufman left a few weeks earlier. But they were on the dock at Haifa to meet me."

**KURT SONNEBORN, MANFRED SPEYER**

Here are Kurt, Manfred and other boys from Germany at the Ahava Institute, where they graduated from a two-year course combining agricultural work and academic studies. Manfred continues: "When the war broke out, I enlisted in the British Army because I wanted to fight the Nazis. I didn't have much chance as I was captured in 1941 in Greece and spent the next four years in a POW camp in eastern Germany."

But back to 1938 --- Kurt, Manfred and Menahem were joined by Rolf (Rafael) Beifus...

**RAFAEL BEIFUS**

age 17 in this photo, who tells about his move from Geissen: "It was clear from the outset, both to me and my parents, that I would continue my education in Eretz Israel. The Sonneborn Fund helped me go there through Youth Aliya. From my arrival in 1938 until late 1941 I corresponded with my parents through a third country. In 1942 I received a note from the Red Cross informing me of their departure to an unknown destination. Only three years later did I learn the bitter truth of their fate."

**STERN SISTERS,**

These three Stern sisters, daughters of Auguste and Izaak Stern, perished in the Holocaust: in the middle is Rafael Beifus' mother Hedwig; on the left, Martha Katz, the relative whom the young people visited when they were in Berlin; and on the right, Ruth, Yehudit and Hanan's mother, Bertel (Bertha) Gruneberg ...

**PILLAR AT BERGEN-BELSEM**

who died of typhoid while interned at Bergen-Belsen. Ruth Gruneberg went to Eretz Israel on a certificate. Yehudit ...

(1993) YEHUDIT LEV

shown here last year with her husband Yekuti'el Lev, Nancy Glick and Sarah Aynor, tells us: "With the help of the Sonneborn family, I was chosen to go to Eretz Israel. Thus in September 1935, when I was 16 years old, my mother accompanied me as far as Koln. From there I travelled alone to Berlin and then to Italy where I boarded the boat for Eretz Israel. Parting from my parents was not easy, but for a young person, new experiences are seen as an exciting challenge. Everything went smoothly. Everything during my two years of study at the Mizrahi Home for Young Women was taken care of by the Sonneborns. Then I went to Kibbutz Hefetz Haim where I met my husband. We married in 1939 and now have ...

LEVS WITH 8 CHILDREN

8 children, each with many children of their own. I am grateful to the Sonneborns from the bottom of my heart, for, because of them, I am alive and we were able to have such a large and wonderful family."

Back in Germany, with his two older sisters, Ruth and Yehudit, already in Eretz Israel ...

DACHAU GATE

and his father interned in Dachau concentration camp, Hanan, the youngest Gruneberg, managed to find a job in a clothing store to help his mother Bertel make ends meet. He tells us that, "His enthusiastic reports of my sisters influenced me to leave my parents and also go to Eretz Israel. The Sonneborns financed all the expenses. I was in a group of some 50 youth evacuated to Denmark, on 3rd September 1939, just as England and France declared war on Germany. Four months later we were the first group to be airlifted part of the way -- to Holland, and from there by train through Belgium and France, by ship to Lebanon and by bus to Haifa."

HANAN GRUNEBERG MILKING

Following a two-year agricultural training program, Hanan and his group joined Kibbutz Ma'ayan Zvi. He continues: "There was a housing shortage, some of us moved in with a married couple. We, the 'third wheels', were called the 'Primus stove'! I worked at many jobs, including as a tractor driver and mechanic. In the mid-1940s I volunteered in the Palmach. My job was to keep stores of hidden ammunition in working order. I was lucky that I was never caught by the British."

ROLF BEIFUS AND YOSSEI STERN

Hanan's cousin, Helmut (Yossi) Stern shown here at right with cousin Rolf Beifus, has written an autobiographical novel in German titled "Stark wie ein Spiegel," which includes the story of his escape from Germany with a Kindertransport, organized by the Jewish Agency. An excerpt: "The most difficult moment, leaving my family, had arrived. My sisters Sonya and Esther would have liked to come too."



#### ESTHER STERN WITH CAR

Here we see Esther posing with the newest model car and here a portrait ...

#### ESTHER STERN

to be cherished. What Yossi had no way of knowing then was that Sonya would follow him to Eretz Israel, but Esther, who was too young for Youth Aliya, would perish with their father, Hermann Stern, and her mother, Klara.

Yossi continues: ~~"my father~~ kept repeating that I would return after two or three years. Then everything would be back to normal and I would enter the university. He rode with me as far as Frankfurt. There we saw many Jews standing in groups along the platform waiting for the special train which was to take its hand-picked passengers to a chartered ship moored at Marseilles. This mass exodus had been hastily organized to rescue as many German Jewish youngsters as possible, since the British were about to drastically restrict Jewish immigration into Palestine. The train arrived. Doors were opened, megaphones blared instructions, signboards were posted. I said goodbye to my father and boarded the train. A short distance from the French border, after a lengthy and frightening inspection by the Nazi border police, the train finally began its westward journey. The first coaches had already rumbled on the bridge over the Rhine. Two steel-helmeted, fully armed German soldiers stood posted there. Then something happened: Strains of the forbidden socialist anthem, the Internationale, drifted from the first coaches. The train slowed down till it stood still. And then it began going backwards. We expected the worst. Each moment was an eternity. We looked silently out of the windows. A man called to us to pray Ma'ariv together."

#### YOSSI STERN ON TRAIN

And someone took Yossi's photograph ... ~~"Outside not the,~~ slightest movement was seen. And then the train began to move forward. When we reached the bridge again, someone loudly recited the special prayer for surviving danger, followed by the Shehechyanu -- 'Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us and for enabling us to reach this time.' -- The first thing I saw in France were two soldiers, who stood nonchalantly in their uniforms and helmets and waved back at me."

But that was not quite the end of Yossi's difficulties. After leaving the train, the youngsters stood on the dock to board the ship "Patria." Yossi tells us: ~~"Some nice ladies,~~ from the local WIZO group were reading out the names of the Youth Aliya kids, one by one. When called, that person would climb the rope ladder onto the ship. But my name was not called. I stood there, a small boy with a big suitcase, begging someone to find my name on the list. Meanwhile, sailors began pulling up the ladder. Finally one lady shouted, 'Wait, someone is missing!' It took minutes -- for

me an eternity -- until they found my name on the girls' passenger list! And so I travelled to Eretz Israel as a girl!!"

**(1938) SONYA STERN PORAT**

The next year, in 1938, Sonya Stern, followed her brother. She tells how it came about: ~~My~~ father's birthday, in January 1936, during the morning flag-raising ceremony and singing of the Nazi hymn, the principal announced that all Jewish pupils were ordered to leave their schools immediately. I was the only Jew in the class -- but my classmates didn't care, except one girl who declared, 'If Sonya doesn't come to school, neither will I.' When I arrived home sobbing, my father just hugged me and said, 'Sonya, this is the best birthday present you could have given me.' Since I was already enrolled for a seminar in our youth movement, I left for Hamburg immediately. While there, I was placed in the home of a rich Jewish family who had lost its household help. Every day but Shabbat I worked until four in the afternoon and studied till ten at night. Later, my group went to a preparatory camp, which was spartan but I loved it. After a month someone came from Berlin to decide who would get certificates for Palestine. The suspense was unbearable. But I was chosen. Before leaving, I went to say goodbye to Grandmother Guste and Grandfather Isaak Stern ...

**AUGUSTE AND ISAAK STERN**

who lived with their daughter Martha and her daughter Annalore in Berlin. On Shabbat we went to the synagogue. My grandfather put his hands on my head, blessed me and wished me success in the ~~future~~. In July 1938 Sonya (2nd from right rear) ...

**SONYA STERN ON SHIP**

said goodbye to her family and sailed with her group on the ship 'Galila' to Haifa, where she was met by her brother Helmut (Yossi).

**SONYA STERN**

After completing a two-year course at a Mizrachi (Religious Zionist) school for young women, Sonya was assigned work in Nahariya, where she met her husband Erwin Porat shown here ...

**(1960) PORAT FAMILY**

in 1960 with their sons, Gabriel and Yoram.

The last and youngest of the Sonneborn family to escape to Eretz Israel was Meir Rossmann. His sister Aliza had preceded him in April 1939, spending the next two years on a Youth Aliya program, followed by a nine-month training period at Ashdot Yaacov, where Hanan Sonneborn was her 'kibbutz family.'

\* \* \*

(1924) HERMANN ROSSMANN HOUSE

This 1924 family picture was taken in front of the Rossmann homestead in Woelfersheim. Note the name 'Hermann Rozman' on the house. Here are Meir and Aliza's father Kaufmann Rossmann, their mother Toni Stern, pregnant with Meir, and Aliza.

Meir tells us: ~~"I left Germany~~ in mid-November 1939, after the start of the war. A year earlier, on Kristallnacht, we fled from Woelfersheim by foot in the middle of the night. We were the last Jewish family still in the village. Our ten-room house was looted by farmers, and we were left with nothing."

Hermann Rossmann described this incident to his grandchildren, among them Meir Rossmann and Yohanan Oppenheimer: ~~"One terrible~~ day in November 1938 I was having an afternoon rest when about 20 Nazi ruffians burst into our house.

(1912) KAUFMANN ROSSMANN

First they began beating my son, Kaufmann, shown here as a teenager. Then they went into every room, brandishing guns and axes. When they threatened to hit me, I asked them -- Aren't you ashamed to beat an old man like me? So they ordered me to lay down and cover my head. I heard them breaking everything in the house. When they had gone, I found my son bleeding on the kitchen floor. Suddenly the rowdies returned. We fled to the barn and hid in the loft. I was afraid they would set the barn on fire, so I ran out to get help -- but my old friends were afraid and would not help me, except for one who let me hide in his barn. When I returned home the next morning, I found the family had fled, and everything I had built and earned in a lifetime was either stolen or destroyed."

KAUFMANN ROSSMANN (BEFORE INTERNMENT)

Here we see Meir's father, Kaufmann Rossmann who, some time after he was beaten by the Nazi thugs in his father's house, was interned ...

DACHAU INTERNMENT CAMP

at Dachau concentration camp as a warning, and then sent home -- like Julius Stern, Karl Gruneberg, Leo Sonneborn and others of the family.

KAUFMANN ROSSMANN (AFTER INTERNMENT)

He was photographed after his return. Subsequently, he was taken again, but this time he did not come back.

Meir continues: "All through 1939 my father tried everything to get permission for me to go to Eretz Israel, although I was not yet 15 years old. Finally, my aunt Recha Oppenheimer, who was living in Herzliya, appealed to Henrietta Szold in Jerusalem, and I received an entrance certificate. I reached Haifa by ship and took a bus to Herzliya. The driver knew my aunt and let me off with my luggage near her house.

#### RECHA, FRIEND, SALLI AND MEIR ROSSMANN

"We -- my aunt Recha and her husband Salli, shown here with a friend and me -- had a very emotional reunion. I stayed with the Oppenheimers for six months and then went to a Youth Aliya program at Kibbutz Hazorea. ...

#### MEIR ROSSMANN WORKING.

"Two years later, I moved to my new house at Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk, where I live with my whole family to this day."

And it was at Kfar Masaryk, in 1986, that the first Sonneborn Reunion in Israel was held.

#### (1986) KFAR MASARYK REUNION - WHOLE GROUP

There gathered, with their families, some of the Sonneborns who had come in the mid-1930s to help build the country, a few who immigrated after statehood, and nine of those who had been helped by the Sonneborns to escape Germany through Youth Aliya.

#### (1986) KFAR MASARYK REUNION - 9 YOUTH ALIYA

This photo is of the nine Youth Aliya teenagers living in Israel: in the back row: Meir Rossmann, Rafael Beifus, Hanan Gruneberg. In front: Yehudit Gruneberg Lev, Yossi Stern, Sonya Stern Porat, Manfred Speyer, Menahem Kaufman and Aliza Rossmann Rosenthal. From this gathering, a message of profound gratitude was sent to Rudolf Sonneborn, the last survivor of the Sonneborns whose deep concern for family became a lifesaving mission. A few days later, Rudolf died at the age of 88.

Rudolf Sonneborn was born in 1898 to Siegmund and Camille Sonneborn.

#### RUDOLF IN KNICKERS WITH SIEGMUND

Standing six feet tall, he towered over his father. He was also terribly good-looking. Towards the end of World War I, after his 18th ...

#### RUDOLF SONNEBORN IN UNIFORM

birthday, Rudolf enlisted in the United States Naval Air Force. Ironically, a number of the Sonneborn family in Germany were serving in the German army at the same time.

But loyalty to country and military service are a Sonneborn tradition. A small sampling provides proof:

**SAMUEL SONNEBORN IN GERMAN UNIFORM**

Here is LEVI's son Samuel Sonneborn, in the uniform of the German army during the First World War, and his grandson, Ludwig ...

**LUDWIG SONNEBORN WITH FATHER, JACQUES**

also serving Germany, shown here with his father, Jacques.

In the past half century, starting with those who were in the armed forces during the Second World War, we see ...

**HENRY SONNEBORN III IN NAVY UNIFORM**

Henry Sonneborn III in the uniform of the United States Navy, while other Sonneborns fought for the Allied cause by joining the Jewish Brigade of the British army.

**YOSSI STERN IN JEWISH BRIGADE**

Here we have Yossi Stern, pictured in Holland in 1945 ...

**YOSSI STERN IN JEWISH BRIGADE**

and in Venice.

**KURT SONNEBORN IN JEWISH BRIGADE**

And here is Kurt Sonneborn in Rome.

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL MENAHEM KAUFMAN**

The family's highest ranking officer is Menahem Kaufman, whose 20-year career in the Israel Defense Forces began during the 1948 War of Independence and culminated with his heading the education division at IDF headquarters before his retirement in 1969.

**AYALA AYNOR**

Israel is famous for its women soldiers. In 1955 Ayala Aynor served in the IDF by day, and studied law at Tel Aviv University by night.

**EZRA & NAOMI KALLNER**

Here we see Yehudit Kallner's daughter Naomi with her brother Ezra during their army service in 1969.

**SHLOMIT AND TAMAR STERN IN UNIFORM**

Here sisters Shlomit and Tamar Stern, Yossi's older daughters, serve their country in 1975, followed by ...

**ORA STERN IN UNIFORM**

the youngest Stern daughter, Ora, in 1977.

**KITTY FALK AND NANCY GLICK**

The following year, Kitty Falk saw one of her Zionist dreams come true, as she congratulated granddaughter Nancy Glick on completing basic training at a base 'somewhere in Israel'!

**NANCY GLICK AT KP**

KP duty proved too much for Nancy, so she transferred to the United Nations Liaison Unit, one of a small group of bilingual soldiers, under the personal command of Shimon Levinson, today a convicted spy!.

**LYNNE HIRSCH**

Just before Kitty's death in 1983, a second granddaughter, Lynne Hirsch, put on IDF green ...

**LYNNE HIRSCH DRINKING**

and earned her second lieutenant bars.

**AMOS RECEIVING GUN**

Amos Aynor, inducted before the 1973 Yom Kippur War, is seen here as a raw recruit receiving his weapon ...

**AMOS AYNOR**

and here as a bearded reservist on his way to a communications bunker in Lebanon.

**SONYA PORAT WITH AIR FORCE GRANDSON**

The tradition of proud grandmothers continues, as we see Sonya Porat with her grandson, now a pilot in Israel's air force ...

Casualties are an inevitable outcome of war. We take a moment to pay tribute to the memory of Ernst Katz's daughter Yael's late husband, Yuval Chalfan, who was killed in action in the 1973 Yom Kippur War, just a few days after the birth of their daughter, Adi.

**ELLEN HIRSCH IN GAS MASK**

While many of us were recovering from the shock of donning gas masks and huddling together in our 'sealed rooms' during the first Iraqi Scud missile attack on Israel in the 1991 Gulf War, a war casualty of different sort was announced: An 87-year-old lady had suffocated when she failed to properly remove the seal of her gas mask....

**JENNIE SONNEBORN ROSENBLATT**

That lady was Jennie Sonneborn Rosenblatt, granddaughter of Olga and ISAAK Sonneborn, who had always kept an open door for the young relatives who arrived in the country after her.

Let's return now to 1918: On hearing the news of Rudolf Sonneborn's invitation to join the forthcoming Zionist Commission to Palestine, ...

**HENRIETTA SZOLD.**

Henrietta Szold, a founder of both Hadassah Medical Organization and Youth Aliya, wrote Rudolf's mother: "... I do think what it will be in the days to come for your son to be able to say that he was witness to the beginnings of the restoration of his people ... laying the foundations of a normal national life, human in its Jewishness and Jewish in

its humanity after the abnormal living of generations upon generations. I cannot conceal from you that at the same time I am thinking of the effect Rudolf's journey may have upon the young men of his own generation. He will be a propagandist through the act and through the influences which he is bound to bring back with him."

And, indeed, Rudolf returned to America, played football at Johns Hopkins, held a top executive position at L. Sonneborn Sons -- the family's large oil and chemical business -- and on July 1, 1945, at David Ben-Gurion's request, hosted in the living room of his New York penthouse, the first ...

(7 JULY 1945) MEETING IN RGS LIVING ROOM  
meeting of Materials for Palestine -- later dubbed the Sonneborn Institute. It functioned -- collecting equipment, supplies and funding for the struggling Jewish state -- before, during and for a few years after the 1948-49 War of Independence.

During a 1950 trip to Israel for Zionist meetings, Rudolf visited the ...

ERNST AND MALLI KATZ W/RUDOLF  
Katz family in Ra'anana -- shown here with Ernst and his mother Malli, ... and the

RUDOLF WITH HERTA AND LINA WEISENBACH  
Weisenbachs, also in Ra'anana -- here is Rudolf with Herta and her mother Lina ...

As national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and first president of Israel Bonds, Rudolf was often in the limelight; Here we see him ...

(1950) RUDOLF GREETED BY MOSHE SHARETT  
being welcomed at Lydda Airport by Moshe Sharett, Israel's first foreign minister. Sister Kitty follows at right.

RUDOLF WITH EINSTEIN  
And here Rudolf celebrates Israel's birth with Albert Einstein, one of the country's most distinguished supporters.

However, years earlier, in 1921, Rudolf's first encounter with Einstein left him singularly unimpressed. In a letter to his family, he wrote: "I spent the afternoon with Ussishkin and Einstein. The former is as vociferous as ever. The latter is a simple, naive soul whose main interest was in his new pipe and the big buildings. I only saw him for a few moments alone with his secretary Ginsberg of London -- son of Ahad Ha'am -- whom I knew from abroad. A crowd of reporters came along to find out what relativity is all about and Einstein tried his best to enlighten them -- but vainly. He speaks only German."

#### **RUDOLF AND HARRY TRUMAN**

Here Rudolf is seen exchanging views with President Harry S. Truman, the first head of state to recognize the newly-established State of Israel, while Abba Eban, then Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, looks on.

#### **RUDOLF WITH BEN-GURION AND HENRY MORGANTHAU**

Here Rudolf confers with Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion and Henry Morgenthau Jr., President Roosevelt's Secretary of the Treasury. And here he is with ...

#### **RUDOLF WITH GOLDA MEIR**

Golda Meir, Israel's foreign minister.

But Rudolf is not the only Sonneborn to meet famous people and get their picture in the paper ...

#### **ELLEN FALK POURING MILK**

Some, start and end their careers as newsmakers in nursery school ... witness Ellen Falk in this 1933 article.

#### **NANCY GLICK**

Nancy Glick was an item in 1963 ...

#### **UN LIAISON UNIT**

and notorious by association in 1993 ...

But the most infamous juxtaposition of all is our own ..

#### **PHILIP HEYMANN IN NY TIMES**

Philip Heymann, who could not even resign from his Washington job without sharing the page with -- what's her name!!

#### **AMALIE, RUDOLF AND KATHARINE AT BIRTHDAY PARTY**

But to get back to Rudolf. Many of us knew him as the debonair uncle, a lady's man in his younger days, a formidable husband to three wives in his later years. His annual birthday party at the Regency Hotel in New York kept several generations of the widespread Sonneborn clan in touch with each other. His death left a vacuum filled only by occasional gatherings for a wedding, funeral or special anniversary. However, every year on a Saturday morning in spring, a unique rite takes place in Bethlehem, PA. Those who have come from near and far, including companions and chauffeurs, for the Bach Festival present themselves promptly at 10am at Ryan's Studio for the annual photograph. Here are five samples:

C. 1945: **BACH FESTIVAL** [rear: Rudolf S., Josephine S. Ross. front: Ellen Falk, Katharine S. Falk, Camille S., Amalie S. Katz, Deborah Katz]

1951: **BACH FESTIVAL** [rear: Howard Hermann, Josephine, Rudolf, Katharine, Cornelius Butler (Camille & Siegmund's devoted chauffeur); front: Deborah Hermann, Camille, Mary Katz]



1969: BACH FESTIVAL [rear: Rudolf's chauffeur, Rudolf's companion, Deborah, Howard, Mary, Marcia (Penny) Neeley, Richard Burack, Sigo Falk, Wallace Hirsch. front: Jean Falk, M. Shakman Katz, Amalie, Rudolf, Ellen Hirsch]

1971: BACH FESTIVAL [rear: Wally, Ellen, Bill Shopsin, Susannah Falk Shopsin, Uriel Procaccia, Ayala Aynor Procaccia, Howard, Andrew Hermann, Deborah. front: Nancy Glick, Katharine, Shak, Amalie, Anna Burack]

1975: BACH FESTIVAL [Rudolf's chauffeur, Andrew, Ann Ross, Howard, Tulli. front: Deborah, Shak, Amalie, Rudolf, Ann Heymann]

But it is the celebration of holiday, life cycle and special events which draw families together. Here ...

#### GIESSEN MEMORIAL SYNAGOGUE:

Sonya Porat and Yossi Stern, front center, attend the inaguration in 1976 of the Giessen Memorial Synagogue in Kiryat Bialik.

#### SHABBAT DINNER

Friday night Shabbat dinner was a festive meal in 1920 at the Siegmund Sonneborns at 2420 Eutaw Place in Baltimore. We see here Kitty, a guest, Helen, Rudolf, Josephine, Camille, Siegmund, Amalie, a companion, Ferdinand and Auguste [Henry S. Sr.'s widow].

#### FINKELSTEINS WITH SHABBAT CANDLES:

And Stan Finkelstein and his sons, together with Stan's mother, Miriam, stand in the glow of the Shabbat candles.

#### SHABBAT IN PITTSBURGH:

Shabbat in Pittsburgh is celebrated by the Glick children, assisted by a bevy of relatives.

#### FINKELSTEINS LIGHTING HANNUKAH CANDLES:

Lighting the Hannukah candles some years ago are Mark and David Finkelstein, aided by father Stan's guiding hand. And

#### HANNUKAH LIGHTING AT AYNOR'S

last year, the seventh light is kindled by Morris Grossman as Elke, Sarah, Ari and Hanan Aynor look on.

#### ROSS CHILDREN WITH AMALIE AT SEDER

Here, Joe, Ann and Steve Ross pose at the family Seder with aunt, Amalie Sonneborn Katz.

The rites of passage call for family pictures, such as these celebrating the Brit Milah of ...

#### SARAH AYNOR HOLDING AMOS

Amos Aynor in 1953 in Montreal ...

#### YOSSI STERN'S BAR MITZVAH

and the Bar Mitzvah in Giessen in 1934 of Yossi Stern, which brought together: standing: his stepmother Klara, his aunt Hedwig Beifuss, three Thalheimers, uncle Fritz Stern; middle - cousin Rolf Beifus, Yossi, half-sister Esther, sister Sonya; seated: father Julius Stern, Kaminka grandparents, grandmother Guste, Grandfather Isaak, and greataunt Jettchen Stern. In 1966 ...

#### AMOS AYNOR BAR MITZVAH

Amos Aynor was called to the Torah in Dakar, Senegal under the tutelage of his father ... and nearly 20 years later ...

#### MARK FINKELSTEIN BAR MITZVAH

Mark Finkelstein posed with his grandmother Miriam at his Bar Mitzvah in the state of Washington. Last December ...

#### SARAH GLICK BAT MITZVAH

in a Conservative synagogue in Pittsburgh, Sarah Glick is shown rehearsing for her Bat Mitzvah, an event which brought 91-year-old great-great-aunt Amalie from Baltimore to attend the festivities. We see Amalie here with ...

#### AMALIE KATZ AND SONNEBORN COUSINS

three Sonneborn cousins -- Peggy Falk, Margot Moser and Lynne Hirsch, as the invited guests broke bread together after ...

#### MOTZEI

Jon, Debbie and Sarah Glick recited the traditional blessing over the challah.

Weddings are wonderful.

#### AUGUSTE SONNEBORN

This 1887 portrait is of Auguste Sonneborn in the dress she wore at her wedding to Henry Sonneborn Sr., and ...

#### WEDDING PORTRAITS OF SIEGMUND AND CAMILLE.

These portraits of bridegroom Siegmund Sonneborn and bride Camille Katharine Goldschmid were taken at the time of their nuptials in 1895.

#### 45TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF SIEGMUND AND CAMILLE

In 1940, they gathered their family together in Amalie and Shakman Katz's Baltimore livingroom to celebrate their 45th anniversary ...

#### SARAH AND HANAN AYNOR

Here in 1950 we see Hanan and Sarah Aynor ... 25 years later, their son Amos wed ...

#### AMOS AND ELKE AYNOR

Elke Blachman in Mexico. Next under the chuppah ...

#### JON AND DEBRA RUBINSTEIN

in 1978 were Jon Glick and Debra Rubinstein in Pittsburgh ...

YOSSI STERN FAMILY,

In 1989 Yossi Stern rejoices at his daughter Shlomit's wedding, cheered on by her sisters ...

Two years later, in the shadow of the walls of Jerusalem's Old City ...

(1991) LYNNE HIRSCH AND DAVID RECHTER

Lynne Hirsch brought David Rechter from 'down under' (Australia) into the family, with the time-honored custom of ...

BREAKING THE GLASS

breaking the glass

Yael AND ALAIN

In 1992 Yael Aynor, in a dress from Mexico, married Alain Koginsky, a 'vatic' from France, in a ceremony in Jerusalem, followed by Latin American flamenco dancing in Ein Hod ... A few weeks later, as brides have down through the ages,

KETUBA

Nancy Glick presented to her bridegroom, Morris Grossman, their signed ketuba in Pittsburgh. Later they celebrated ...

WEDDING DANCE

on the shoulders of friends.

WEDDING OF STAN AND MARJIE FINKELSTEIN\*

Stan Finkelstein and Marjie Green were married this past March. Stan explains: "After being together for almost 18 years, we decided that since our courtship had withstood the ravages of helping to raise my two sons, several house purchases and a number of professional changes, we could probably live through the stresses of marriage."

Next come children --

KSF'S DESCENDANTS, WASHINGTON 1993

Here are some of the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Katharine Sonneborn Falk gathered in Washington last November. And ...

LEV FAMILY

here we see the Lev family of Hefetz Haim who have followed the biblical injunction "Be fruitful and multiply." ...

In each of our families, the youth are our future, the answer to those who tried to destroy us, the legacy of our own lives and accomplishments, the inheritors of our hopes and dreams. For us gathered here today -- in our several generations, from the four corners of the earth -- the words of Siegmund Sonneborn's last Psalm echo over the years, into the decades ahead ...

(1992) HANAN AYNOR AND SUSANNAH GLICK,  
witnessed by Hanan Aynor of generations past and Susannah  
Glick of the yet uncharted future ... We read:

"Let every morning blow afresh  
Thy spark within us into flame,

\* \* \*

RECHA OPPENHEIMER AND GRANDCHILD

"Let every new-born grandchild sow a crop of hopes  
Of grand desires and forward looking plans ...

ALMOND TREE

"Let every flow'ring tree revitalize our longing to create."

THE END

An afterword is in order here.

In the book of Deuteronomy we are told "to remember the days of old, to consider the years of many generations." And this, in August 1994, some 170 Sonneborn-ites did -- about 70 of them from abroad, the rest from Israel -- when they gathered for two days at Kibbutz Ramat Rahel in Jerusalem. A festive opening reception was followed by a dinner at which each family identified itself. Here we see the LEVI branch ...

#### LEVI BRANCH

most of them descendants of the Sonneborns in America and Europe who pooled their resources and initiated the rescue of family sons and daughters from Nazi Germany through Youth Aliya.

#### JETTE BRANCH

The largest representation was from the JETTE branch -- those who had managed to reach Israel or the United States during the 1930s -- and who are now in their 70s and 80s. They came along with their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Many of the senior generation had left parents and siblings behind in Germany.

During the Reunion, an evening ceremony honoring the memory of those Sonneborn family members who perished in the Holocaust was held at Yad Vashem's Valley of the Destroyed Communities. Miriam Finkelstein, Menahem Kaufman, Meir Rossmann, Aliza Rossman Rosenthal, Ruth Gruneberg Schey, Yehudit Gruneberg Lev, Hanan Gruneberg, Rafael Beifus, Sonya Stern Porat, Yosef Stern and Manfred Speyer of the JETTE and ...

#### ISAAK BRANCH

ISAAK branches came forward and recited the names of his or her loved ones. Each was accompanied by a grandchild who lit a candle for that person.

The survivors spoke of how they had raised strong and vibrant families in their new lands -- their answer to those who tried to annihilate the Jews of Europe, their sacred commitment to those who were not rescued and perished.

Sonneborn family history took center stage at the Reunion with the presentation of the slide show which we have just seen. In its preparation, many sources were consulted and many people generously contributed of their time and family memories. With grateful thanks we wish to acknowledge the following:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS I  
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Hanan Aynor  
Ernst Katz  
Herta Neshor

Yohanan Oppenheimer  
Settie W. Sonneborn  
Yosef Stern

Written Testimonies:

Rafael Beifus  
Nida Bernstein  
Stan Finkelstein  
Hanan Gruneberg  
Yehudit Kallner  
Menahem Kaufman  
Yehudit Gruneberg Lev

Sonya Stern Porat  
Aliza Rossmann Rosenthal  
Meir Rossmann  
Ruth Gruneberg Schey  
Kurt Sonneborn  
Manfred Speyer

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS II'

Photographs, letters and documents furnished by:

Sarah Aynor	Ernst Katz
Rafael Beifus	Menahem Kaufman
Nida Bernstein	Hava Rosenblatt Kedmi
Mary Katz Burack	Carolyn Sonneborn Mayr
Yael Chalfan	Herta Nesher
David Falk	Hannah Oppenheimer
Stan Finkelstein	Yohanan Oppenheimer
Miriam Finkelstein	Sonya Stern Porat
Jonathan Glick	Aliza Rossmann Sonneborn
Nancy Glick	Ann Ross
Mildred Goldberg	Meir Rossmann
Morris Grossman	Ruth Gruneberg Schey
Hanan Gruneberg	Charles Sonneborn
Ellen Hirsch	Kurt Sonneborn
Lynne Hirsch	Yosef Stern
Yehudit Kallner	Karen Reinstein

## WE WISH TO THANK:

Sarah Aynor: production, translations  
Yael Aynor: general assistance  
Ruth Ariel: photocopying  
Ruth Ben Haim: German-English translation  
Jonah Bleicher: Hebrew typing  
Stan Finkelstein: narration  
Jonathan Glick: narration  
Michael Elizur: English-Hebrew translation  
Nancy Glick: assistant producer  
Ellen Hirsch: script writer and producer  
Simon Lichman: narration  
Yohanan Oppenheimer: German-Hebrew translation  
Rina Oppenheimer: Hebrew-English translation  
Ronit Penso: Hebrew typing, Hebrew-English translation  
Sonya Porat: German-Hebrew translation  
Yossi Stern: German-English translation

For a special gift, our special thanks to: HENRY SONNEBORN III

Most slides and additional photography by: SHTULMAN-KESSEL  
PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES LTD. Jerusalem

Simultaneous translation by: Simol, Inc., Tel Aviv

## PICTURE OF WHOLE GROUP

Here we see the whole group ... over 150 stayed to be photographed. Now this "community which was assembled as one" has dispersed again to their homes, scattering as far abroad as Australia. We left, richer for having met each other and enriched by what we learned from each other. To quote Psalm 16, we Sonneborns can say today with pride: "Yes, I have a goodly heritage."

# My 12 Commandments

YOUNGSTOWN OHIO MARCH 21. 1994

A lot of People like to know

Why I still look so young?

No 1 I have been married not so young?

No 2 I always think young?

No 3 I did not have Children!

No 4 I am not a worry type.

No 5 I never smoked -

No 6 I never drunk -

No 7 I still exercise -

No 8 I take good care of myself -

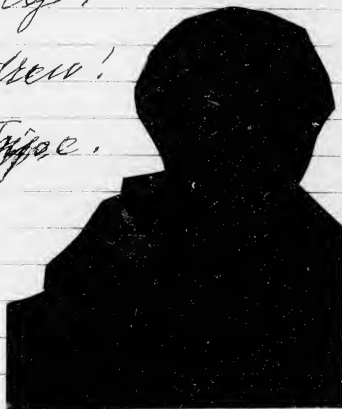
No 9 I eat right - not too much -

No 10 I sleep good in the night -

No 11 If I am tired in the Daytime - I lay down -

No 12 I still have my clear mind!

Sattie Sounsborn born November 15th. 1897





Rabbi Herbert N. Schwartz

EULOGY- LEO SONNEBORN  
May 15, 1974

We are gathered here to pay our last earthly respects to Leo Sonneborn, our dear departed. It is always difficult to speak the words of consolation to mourners and friends at a time of great loss. Nevertheless, it is my hope that the words which leave my heart will enter yours and bring some measure of consolation.

Leo Sonneborn passed away in his eighty-second year. We have gathered to pay our respects and to pray for him. All of know that eventually death will come. Its hands will not be staid even for an instant, nor can we enter into judgement with it. Our question "Why?" will go unanswered. But this does not mean that we are helpless in the face of death. We can and do rob death of ultimate victory by living life as long as it is ours to live. To ask of death that it never come is futile, but it is not futility to pray that when death comes for us it may take us from a world one quarter of which is a little better because we were there.

When we are dead and people weep and grieve, let it be because we touched their lives with beauty and simplicity. Let it not be said that life was good to us, but rather that we were good to life.

A great Rabbi asked his leading students that each of them go out into the world, and observe their fellowman, decide what was the finest quality which a person can be endowed, and which a person should seek to develop during his lifetime. This ancient survey of human nature came up with some very interesting answers.

One student answered that a good eye - the ability to see good in others, to avoid envy and ill-will, this was the finest quality in man. A second suggested that being good friends - or the quality of friendship was paramount. A third felt that being a good neighbor - being a good member of society and having sympathy and understanding for people was to be encouraged. A fourth student suggested that one ought to foresee the fruits of his actions. And the last student considered a good heart, unselfish love and thought, feeling and deed, as the quality to

be cherished more than any other in mankind.

When we think of Leo Sonneborn, we ought to consider him in the light of what the students of this Rabbi suggested were qualities to be sought in a fine human being. He was a very special person. His friendship, sympathy, ability to see good in others, goodness of nature are the qualities we ought most to remember. Leo Sonneborn was a Jewish gentleman. This, not only because he was attentive, impeccably dressed, and endowed with a distinctive charm. I learned from his wife, Settie, with whom he had been married for some forty-six years, that this was no mean veneer. Leo Sonneborn was a man of integrity. A man who - as the Psalmist said - would keep an oath even to his own harm. This in spite of his personal confrontation with the Kingdom of the Holocaust during his middle years. He was devoted to his wife - his "Schatzie". He was also very concerned <sup>about</sup> Molly, his twin sister, and Carl, his older brother. And yet, his loving concern for his first in-laws, in Germany, seems to me testament to the strength of even stronger convictions. His loyalty to Weatherbee Coats -- 23 years, his first and only position in this country -- demonstrates not only his skill as a cutter and a designer ( a skill which expressed itself in spite of a physical disability which he suffered since his participation in the First World War ) -- but a fastidious fidelity to those (even outside his family) to those who gave him back his dignity: who provided him an opportunity to be gainfully employed. And how often he demonstrated his appreciation through actions and generous donation for the help he had received from the community at large through the Federation upon his arrival to this city!

Yes, Leo Sonneborn was a fine Jewish gentleman, who along with his devoted wife created a mikdash me'at - a small sanctuary known for its graciousness, for its thorough going honesty and for its neighborly wisdom.

Having said this, what comfort can we bring to the sorrowing family only that which they themselves can find in their sweet memories of him. It is all too easy for us to say that Leo Sonneborn lived a full life, a fruitful life, a worthwhile life. But to our immediate

dear ones, and to many others, his passing leaves a wound which only time can fill. As Shakespeare said: "What wound did ever heal but by degrees.

If they can keep his memory alive and strong, they should choose all that was best and noblest in his life to serve them as an example. I should like to conclude these brief remarks by recounting a parable which is helpful I believe for those who have been through these last two weeks of pain and who must now stand to face sorrow:

Two ships were once seen near land. One of them was leaving the harbor and the other was coming into it. Everyone was cheering the outgoing ship, giving it a hearty send off. But the incoming ship was scarcely noticed. A wise man standing nearby exclaimed: "Rejoice not over the ship that is setting out to sea, for you know not what destiny awaits it, what storms it may encounter, what dangers lurk before it. Rejoice rather over the ship that has reached port safely and brought back all its passengers in peace."

It is the way of the world, that when a human being is born, all rejoice; but when he dies, all grieve. It should be the other way around. No one can tell what troubles await the developing child on its journey through life. But when a man has lived well and dies in peace, all should rejoice, for he has completed his journey successfully and he is departing from this world with the imperishable crown of a good name.

## HOTEL STAFFORD

MORTON A. GRANT  
MANAGERWASHINGTON PLACE  
BALTIMORE, MD. 2/16. 1938

Dear Julius,

I had hoped I might come over to N.Y. before you leave for Palestine, but that being out of the question I am listing below the Boys we have been, as a family, interested in and who were sent by us thru the Youth-Allyah under Miss Henrietta Gold's guidance first to the hachsharim in Germany & then, to the various schools & colonies in Erez. Should you at any time want information regarding them I am sure Miss Gold's office at the Jewish Agency Bldg in Jerusalem under the very efficient guidance of Mrs Ehrlich - Miss Gold's secretary - will gladly furnish it to you.

Manfred Kaufman } Enkel von Fräulein Jette Rosman Wolfersheim  
 Manfred Speyer } Enkel von Onkel Isaac do  
 Chaim ~~Kont~~ Sonneborn }  
 are all three at Beth Y'ladim (Boyschool) ANAWAH in Kiriat Bialik near Haifa  
 Helmut Stern } Enkel von Fräulein Jette Rosman Wolfersheim  
 kind Max Weichsel, von Rimbach } Enkel von Onkel Isaac do  
 I do not know in which schools these two Boys were placed  
 Martin Bacharach also a grandnephew of my mother is in  
 the Ludwig Tietz School at Jagur near Haifa. HE also brought

his brother Alfred to Erez. The latter is a chalmutz but has been unable to find steady work. I enclose you his last letter to me. Should he not be at this address any longer you can reach him thru his brother Martin P.O. Box 1547 Ludwig Tietz School Haifa. or thru his friend Fritz Bachrach (no relative) % The Palestine & Egypt Lloyd Ltd. Rechovoth.

Naturally we are not prepared to invest money in land without further consideration. Uncle F. & I feel that we shall have an opportunity in the next year or so to return to Erez and see for ourselves how best we can help these young men. In the meanwhile the parents of Manfred Speyer as well as the parents of the Bacharach Boys are being helped thru the kindness and generosity of Ludwig. Uncle Samuel also helps some needy people in the family in Germany, but "nach wie vor" we feel the foremost duty of ours is to bring the boys & girls of 15 to 16 years of the family to Erez, give them the chance to learn agriculture, ~~in the land~~ and then let them make their way for themselves. At all times we shall be interested in them and give them such help as we can, but in view of the fact that we have at present either 7 or 8 boys & girls of the Mishpachah in Hachsharah in Germany & Holland waiting for certificates our capacity for helping is circumscribed.

I enclose you also several cards of introduction which may be of help to you: First of all let me call your attention to The Palestine Economic Corporation. This is ~~an~~ American Hook Co. wholly owned in the U.S. (Aunt Camille & I own \$1000<sup>00</sup> worth of stock) Governor Lehman \$25000<sup>00</sup> Louis Marshall \$25000<sup>00</sup> the J.D.C. I think something like \$1,500,000<sup>00</sup>). Bernard Flexner is the head of it. I think something like Harry Viteles, formerly of Phila. is its head in Erez. in America, but we found him to be the best informed & most conservative man of all the men we met. Try to meet him. His wife will, I am sure, be helpful to Margot. She is such an understanding woman, eine ~~gibens tüchtige und intelligente Frau~~. Do not do anything

EUROPEAN PLAN

FIRE PROOF

## HOTEL STAFFORD

MORTON A. GRANT  
MANAGERWASHINGTON PLACE  
BALTIMORE, MD.

of a ~~major~~ major nature without at least having discussed it with Mr Viteles. — Mr H. Mohl was formerly connected with the Palestine Economic Corporation but had organized another bank when we were in Jerusalem. He is an American Engineer originally & went to Erez for the sake of helping in its up-building. He too can be of help in advice & action. His wife is also an American, and very worth while knowing. — Mr A. Goldwater is the Manager of the Palestine Corporation Ltd. An English owned financial Corporation. His business is to make money for his Corporation, but he is a straight shooter & was very helpful to me in getting a certificate for Ernst Katz in 1934. — Of the men at the university go to see Mrs Alex M Dushkin — head of the Dept of Education. They are friends of ours from Chicago and both of them will be glad to be of help to you. Dr & Mrs Mordecai M Kaplan, <sup>temporarily</sup> head of the Dept of Religion I believe — friends of mine from New York. Dr Kaplan has gone for two years to teach at the Hebrew University, he is head of The Teachers College at the Jewish Theol. College of New York. Dr & Mrs David Yellin the foremost old couple among the Inteligencia of Erez. Dr & Mrs S Picard Prof of Geology, whom we entertained here in Baltimore two months ago. He gave a lecture at the Johns Hopkins University. Mrs Picard has the bookshop in which I wanted to make your brother-in-law a partner in 1934. You need no card from me to see Miss Gold or if she

"See America First"

shouldn't be in Jerusalem see her secretary ~~Mrs~~ Ehrlich. Usually Mrs Gold is too busy anyhow & Mrs Ehrlich knows us and our family in Germany quite well thru her long correspondence with uncle Jacques. & the Berlin Office of the Aliyah. We met both of them in Zurich last summer.

If you would know some facts about Palestine as it is, before you get there, I would suggest that you get from Rudolf The Am. Jewish Year Book issued by the Am. Jew. Committee & read from page 458 to 556. You will then have a fair idea of the status of the country as a back-ground. Take it from me: You will hear many, many ~~different~~ opinions, but don't forget that nearly every one you meet in Erez comes from a different environment! Only after you have heard & seen much, can you come anywhere near a settled opinion of your own about almost anything in Palestine.

Please give my love to every body of our family, my greetings to the many kind friends we have there. I really am deeply grieved that I can't go with you! Were aunt Camille & I a little younger we would surely go despite everything! Come you & Margot back to us healthy and happy in the thought of having helped in the upbuilding not only of the Jewish Homeland but of a better world-condition! With much love and a deep-felt L'HITRAOT

Y  
Your uncle, Siegmund

EUROPEAN PLAN

FIRE PROOF

## HOTEL STAFFORD

MORTON A. GRAN  
MANAGERWASHINGTON PLACE  
BALTIMORE, MD.

4/17. 1938

Dear Julius,

Since writing you my lengthy letter to Lexington Ave I found the address of Hellmuth Stern, grandson of uncle Isaac or aunt Jette of Woelfersheim. He is in the very orthodox Kibbutz Rodges. — The Max Weichsel boy has gone or was supposed to have gone to Palestine only during the last few months and I have not as yet received definite advices regarding him.

For your information, we have paid for tuition and board for all of these boys in advance. The period paid for covers two years in Kibbutz Rodges and Kiriat Bialik, but for Martin Bacharach who went to the Tietz school in Jazur-Haifa we had to pay 3 years in advance.

Tonight Mathilde + her family also Tivy + Beatrice will dine with us and we shall drink to your + Margot's pleasant trip and happy return. With much love to both of you

Uncle Siegmund







Ylse my Sister.

Ilse Speyer



ESS 43UN 1 #21

after I came to  
Israel in the  
thawah.

Manfred Speyer 1938



in Prison

RIENT EXPRESS 4JUN 1 #24

D15

Manfred Speyer during WWII





(L TO RT)

Mark  
Neumann

Robin  
Neumann

Andy      Chloe      Paul

10/2001



# Militärpaß

des

Musketier  
Ernold von Ebn

Jahresklasse: 1915

# Paßvermerk.

(In die Militärpapiere einzuflehen.)

*Sonneborn* *Lwyd*  
gehörte bis *30. 4. 1916*  
dem Heere an und ist infolge Demobil-  
machung endgültig aus dem Heeresdienst  
entlassen.

Frankfurt a. M., den *5. XII* 1918.

Bezirkskommando.

*Seelisch*

machung wird als unerlaubte Entfernung beziehungsweise Fahnenflucht mit Freiheitsstrafe bis zu 5 Jahren bestraft.

15. Mannschaften, welche in einem Beamtenverhältnis stehen, haben von dem Empfange eines Gestellungsbefehls sogleich ihrer vorgesetzten Behörde Meldung zu erstatten.

16. Bei allen Gestellungen, sowohl aus Anlaß von Mobilmachungen usw., wie zu Übungszwecken und zu den Kontrollverksammlungen, ist jeder Mann verpflichtet, diesen Paß und (ausweislich der Ersatzreserve) das Führungsgesamt mit zur Stelle zu bringen.

Solange in ersterem der Übertritt zur Landwehr ersten Aufgebots beziehungsweise zur Landwehr zweiten Aufgebots oder für nicht geübte Ersatzreserveisten die Entlassung zum Landsturm ersten Aufgebots nicht vernimmt ist, gehört der Inhaber noch zur Reserve oder zur Landwehr ersten Aufgebots beziehungsweise zur Ersatzreserve.

Wer seinen Paß verliert, hat sogleich bei seiner Kontrollstelle mündlich oder schriftlich die Ausstellung eines Duplikats zu beantragen und dafür 50 Pfennig zu vergüten.

17. Gesuche um Zurückstellung von der Einberufung im Mobilmachungsfall und bei der Bildung von Ersatzgruppen, sowie bei notwendigen Verstärkungen für das laufende Jahr sind vor Beginn des Ersatzgeschäftes bei dem Vorsteher des Orts oder der Gemeinde anzubringen.\*)

Mannschaften, welche wegen Kontrollentziehung nachbieten müssen (Ziffer 11), haben keinerlei Anspruch auf Zurückstellung.

18. Mannschaften, welche nach außereuropäischen Ländern gehen wollen, können im Frieden unter Befreiung von den gewöhnlichen Dienstobliegenheiten, jedoch unter der Bedingung der Rückkehr im Falle einer Mobilmachung, auf zwei Jahre beurlaubt werden.

Weisen dieselben demnächst durch Konsulatsbescheinigungen nach, daß sie sich in einem der erwähnten Länder eine feste Stellung als Kaufmann, Gewerbetreibender usw. erworben haben, so kann der Urlaub unter gleichzeitiger Entbindung von der Rückkehr im Falle einer Mobilmachung bis zur Entlassung aus dem Militärverhältnis verlängert werden. Auf die Küstländer des Mitteländischen und Schwarzen Meeres findet diese Bestimmung keine Anwendung.

Für Mannschaften der Landwehr zweiten Aufgebots besteht es des vorerwähnten Nachweises nur darin, daß sie eine ihren Lebensunterhalt sichernde Stellung als Kaufmann, Gewerbe-

\*) Diese Bestimmung gilt auch für Gesuche ausgebildeter Landsturmpflichtiger betreffs Befreiung von Befolgung des Aufrufs des Landsturms.

treibender usw. erworben haben, auch gilt für dieselben die Befreiung bezüglich der Küstländer des Mitteländischen und Schwarzen Meeres nicht.“)

19. Sämtliche Mannschaften des Beurlaubtenstandes haben sich bei einer während ihres Aufenthaltes auf See oder im Auslande eintretenden allgemeinen Mobilmachung so schnell als möglich ins Kriegsgelände zurückzubewegen (sollten sie nicht gemäß Absatz 2 und 3 dieser Is. hieron befreit sein) und bei dem Verzichtskommando zu stehen, dessen Bezirk sie zuerst erreichen.

Wer an der pünktlichen Rückkehr verhindert sein sollte, hat sich hierüber durch Konsulate- und sonstige zuverlässige Bescheinigungen auszuweisen, widrigenfalls er Strafe nach Strenge der Befehle zu gewärtigen hat.

## VI. Besondere Bestimmungen für die Ersatzreservisten.

20. a) Die Herangehung zur ersten Übung erfolgt in der Regel innerhalb eines Jahres vom Tage der Überweisung zur Ersatzreserve.

b) Den Ersatzreservisten, welche zur ersten Übung einberufen werden, wird, von besonderen Ausnahmefällen abgesehen, der Stellungstag bis zum 15. Juli des betreffenden Kalenderjahres bekannt gemacht.

c) Schiffsahrt treibenden Mannschaften und solchen Ersatzreservisten, welche auf ihren Wunsch später, oder als Nachsatz nachträglich, zur ersten Übung herangezogen werden sollen, wird der Stellungstag 14 Tage vor Beginn der Übung bekannt gemacht.

Als Nachsatz werden die wegen hoher Kosnummer der Ersatzreserve überwiesenen Mannschaften nicht herangezogen.

d) Tritt während der Ableistung einer Übung durch eigenes Verschulden oder im eigenen Interesse der Übenden eine Unterbrechung ein, so kommt die Zeit der letzteren auf die Übungszeit nicht in Anrechnung.

21. a) Denjenigen Ersatzreservisten, welche im Besitz des Berechtigungscheins zum einjährig-freiwilligen Dienst sind oder die entsprechende wissenschaftliche Befähigung durch Schulzeugnisse nachzuweisen vermögen, steht, wenn sie sich während ihrer Dienstzeit (ersten Übung) selbst ver-

\*) Die Bestimmungen dieses Absatzes gelten auch für Befreiung der ausgebildeten Landsturmpflichtigen des zweiten Aufgebots von Befolgung des Aufgebots.

Besüßliche Befehle sind von denselben an den Dispositionierenden der Ersatzkommission desjenigen Bezirks zu richten, in welchem der Übertritt zum Landsturm erfolgt.

pflügen, bekleiden und ausrüsten, für die erste Übung unter denjenigen Truppenteilen die Wahl frei, welchen für das betreffende Jahr die Ausbildung von Ersatzreservisten übertragen ist.

b) Wer auf diese Vergünstigung Anspruch macht, hat innerhalb 14 Tage nach seiner Überweisung zur Ersatzreserve dem Bezirkskommando durch die zuständige Kontrollstelle nachfolgende Papiere einzureichen:

1. seinen Ersatzreferendär;  
2. eine vollständig beglaubigte Bescheinigung über seine eigene bzw. die Vereitwilligkeit und Fähigkeit seines Vaters oder Vormundes zur Tragung der Kosten für die Weiterbildung, Ausrüstung und Verpflegung während der ersten Übung;

3. ein durch die Vorgesetztenobrigkeit ausgestelltes Unbescholtenheitszeugnis;

4. den Berechtigungschein zum einjährig-freiwilligen Dienst bezw. das den Nachweis der wissenschaftlichen Befähigung für den einjährig-freiwilligen Dienst führende Schulzeugnis.

c) Die Meldung beim Truppenteil hat spätestens 14 Tage vor Beginn der Übung mündlich oder schriftlich stattzufinden.

d) Verspätete Anträge sowohl um die Erteilung der Berechtigung zum freien Wahl des Truppenteils (siehe b), als auch um Annahme bei einem solchen (siehe c) werden grundsätzlich abgewiesen.

## VII. Besondere Bestimmungen für die zur Disposition der Truppenteile beurlaubten Mannschaften.

22. Auf die zur Disposition ihres Truppenteils beurlaubten Mannschaften finden für die Dauer der Beurlaubung noch die nachstehenden besonderen Bestimmungen Anwendung:

a) Die zur Disposition ihres Truppenteils beurlaubten Mannschaften haben sich bis zur Beendigung ihres dritten Dienstjahres jederzeit bereit zu halten, einem Geselechtsbefehl behufs Erfüllung ihrer aktiven Dienstzeit sogleich Folge zu leisten.

b) Zum Wechsel des Aufenthaltsortes, sowie zur Annüsterung durch ein Gemeinssamt bedürfen sie der durch Vermittelung der Kontrollstelle einzuholenden Genehmigung ihres Bezirkskommandeurs.

Gumherhandelsbe werden durch ihn unverzüglich zum aktiven Dienst einberufen.

- c) Die zur Disposition der Truppenteile beurlaubten Mannschaften sind den Strafbestimmungen über unerlaubte Entfernung, Fahnenflucht, Selbstbeschädigung und Verhöhnung von Gebrüchen in gleicher Weise wie die Personen des aktiven Dienststandes unterworfen.
- d) Wird ein zur Disposition Beurlaubter vor Erfüllung seiner aktiven Dienstpflicht nicht wieder zum Dienst einberufen, so tritt er mit Beendigung seines letzten Dienstjahres (am 1. Oktober) stillschweigend zur Reserve über, ohne daß er hierüber eine besondere Nachricht erhält oder sich zu diesem Zwecke zu melden braucht.

#### II. Anmerkung:

1. Zum Landsturm gehören alle Wehrpflichtigen bis zum vollenden 45. Lebensjahre, welche nicht dem Heere angetreten.
2. Nachdem der Aufruf des Landsturms ergangen ist, stehen die für die Landwehr geltenden Vorschriften auf die von dem Aufruf betroffenen Landsturmpflichtigen Anwendung.
3. Befinden sich dieselben im Auslande, so haben sie in das Inland zurückzukehren, sofern sie hiervon nicht ausdrücklich befreit sind.
4. Wenn der Landsturm nicht aufgerufen ist, sind die Landsturmpflichtigen seinerzeit militärischer Kontrolle und Übungen unterworfen.
6. Im übrigen siehe Anmerkung zu Ziffer 17 und 18.

### VIII. Bestimmungen für Invalide, Renteneempfänger und über Anmeldung von Versorgungsansprüchen.

#### A. Anerkannte Invalide.

1. Die als halbinvalide oder als zeitig ganz invalide erkannten Unteroffiziere und Gemeinen, welche sich noch im reserve- oder landwehrpflichtigen Alter befinden, gehören, soweit sie nicht dem Landsturm überwiesen sind, zu den Mannschaften des Beurlaubtenstandes und unterliegen wie diese der militärischen Kontrolle.

2. Die als dauernd ganzinvalide anerkannten Unteroffiziere und Gemeinen scheiden aus jedem militärischen Verhältnis aus.

3. Alle aus Zeit anerkannten Invaliden haben sich in dem Jahre, in welchem ihre Pensionsanerkennung abläuft, zum Prüfungsgesichte beizugehen; ärztlicher Untersuchung zu stellen; sie erhalten hierzu eine Aufforderung durch das Bezirkskommando.

Dies gilt auch für die dauernd anerkannten Ganzinvaliden, wenn der Grad ihrer Erwerbsunfähigkeit oder die Tauglichkeit zum Zivildienste nur auf Zeit anerkannt ist oder die erneute Prüfung der Versorgungsangelegenheit aus irgend einem anderen Grunde von der Militärbehörde für erforderlich erachtet wird.

4. Glaubt ein Invalide, daß er wegen Verschlimmerung seines Invaliditätslebens höhere Pensionsgebührende zu beanspruchen habe, so kann er sich mit einem entsprechenden Antrage persönlich oder, wenn dies nicht angängig, schriftlich an den zuständigen Bezirksfeldwebel wenden. Eine Vertretung durch dritte Personen bei Anmeldung von Versorgungsansprüchen, Einsprüchen usw. ist nur bei Minderjährigen und bei Personen unfähig, die durch außerhalb ihres Willens liegende Verhältnisse an der persönlichen, mündlichen oder schriftlichen Anmeldung ihres Anspruchs oder Einspruchs verhindert sind. Ist für jemand ein Pfleger oder Vormund bestellt, so darf nur dieser den Antrag stellen. Vergl. § 9.

5. Als Ausweis für die Pensionsberechtigung dient der Militärpaß. Vor der ersten Pensionszahlung erhält der Invalide von der mit der Zahlung beauftragten Kasse gegen Vorlegung des Militärpasses ein Pensions-Ausstellungsbuch ausgehändigt. In diesem Ausstellungsbuch sind Bestimmungen über den Pensionsumfang vorgebracht, von welchen der Invalide Kenntnis zu nehmen hat. Vergl. C. 9.

II. Anmeldung von Versorgungsansprüchen durch Mannschaften, die vor dem 1. Juli 1906 entlassen sind und bei ihrer Entlassung nicht als Invalide anerkannt waren.

6. Nach der Entlassung aus dem aktiven Militärdienste können noch Ansprüche auf Invalidenversorgung der inneren Kriegsobstabsbefähigung innerhalb 6 Jahren nach erfolgtem Friedensschlusse erhoben werden.

Bei im Kriege militärischer Verwundung oder anderer Dienstbeschädigung sowie bei im Kriege oder im Frieden vorstandener totaler Augenkrankheit kann die Anmeldung von Versorgungsansprüchen jederzeit erfolgen.

7. Wer einen Anspruch auf Invalidenversorgung erheben will, hat sich persönlich oder, wenn dies wegen seines Körperzustandes oder wegen zu großer Entfernung seines Wohnortes von dem des Bezirksfeldwebels oder von dem Meldeamt nicht möglich oder schwierig ist, mit einem schriftlichen Gesuch an den zuständigen Bezirksfeldwebel zu wenden. Dem Gesuche sind Militärpaß, frühere Bescheide, Ausweise über ärztliche Behandlung beizufügen. Dem eigenen Interesse des Mannes entspricht die persönliche Geltung beim Bezirksfeldwebel, da dieser über die einschlägigen Bestimmungen unterrichtet ist und am besten weiß, auf welchem Wege eine Zuwendung möglich und in welcher Weise der Anspruch am erfolgreichsten zu begründen ist. (Siehe A. 4.)

Die Bezirksfeldwebel sind angewiesen, den eigenartigen Unteroffizieren und Soldaten in Versorgungsangelegenheiten Rat und Auskunft zu erteilen.

C. **Unentgeltliche Rentenempfänger und Anmeldung von Versorgungsansprüchen durch Weisungs'en, die seit dem 1. Juli 1906 ohne Rente entlassen sind.**

8. Durch die Zuerkennung einer Rente wird das Militär-, Dienst- oder Militärpflichtverhältnis nicht berührt. Über dieses wird besonders verfügt. Inhaber des Zivilversorgungs- oder des Anstellungsausfalls haben ihre Anstellung oder Beschäftigung im Zivildienst dem Bezirksfeldwebel anzuzeigen.

9. Die Vorschriften unter A Nr. 3, Abs. 1, und Nr. 4, 6 gelten auch für die Rentenempfänger.

10. Von den seit dem 1. Juli 1906 aus dem aktiven Dienste Entlassenen können Ansprüche auf Versorgung nur auf Grund ersittener Dienstbeschädigung und nur innerhalb folgender Fristen angemeldet werden:

- a) bei Friedensdienstbeschädigung bis zum Ablaufe von zwei Jahren nach der Entlassung. Die Dienstbeschädigung muß vor der Entlassung festgestellt sein;
- b) bei Kriegsverwundungen ohne Zeitbeschränkung;
- c) bei sonstigen Kriegsdienstbeschädigungen bis zum Ablaufe von zehn Jahren nach dem Friedensschlusse.

Von den unter a und c aufgeführten Einschränkungen ist nur dann abzugehen, wenn der Nachweis erbracht worden ist, daß die Folgen einer Dienstbeschädigung erst nach der Entlassung bemerkbar geworden sind oder daß der Begleitende von der Anmeldung seines Anspruchs durch außerhalb seines Willens liegende Verhältnisse abgehalten worden ist. Die Anmeldung des Anspruchs muß jedoch bis zum Ablaufe von drei Monaten erfolgt sein, nachdem die Folgen der Dienstbeschädigung bemerkbar geworden sind oder das Hindernis für die Anmeldung weggefallen ist. Vgl. V. B. S. 51, Anmerkung \*.

11. Für die Anmeldung eines Versorgungsanspruchs gilt die Vorschrift unter B Nr. 7.

#### D. Allgemeine Bestimmungen.

12. Wegen die Entscheidung einer niederen Behörde kann bei der nächsthöheren zuständigen Behörde, an letzter Stelle bei der obersten Militärverwaltungsbehörde (Kriegsministerium, Pensionsabteilung) Einspruch eingelegt werden. Der Einspruch muß bis zum Ablaufe von drei Monaten nach Zustellung der Vorentscheidung eingelegt werden.

Ist der Einspruch gegen die Verfassung von Versorgungsgebühren oder gegen die Art und Höhe gerichtet, so ist er stets bei dem zuständigen Bezirksfeldwebel, ist er aber gegen die Anordnung einer Zahlung, Rückzahlung oder Kürzung der Versorgungsgebühren gerichtet, so ist er an erster Stelle bei der Pensionsregierungsbehörde anzubringen. Siehe A 4.

13. Die Entscheidungen des Kriegsministeriums sind endgültig; gegen sie kann nur der gerichtliche Klageweg beschritten werden.

Das Klagericht geht verloren, wenn gegen die Entscheidung einer niederen Behörde nicht rechtzeitig Einspruch eingelegt oder wenn die Klage nicht bis zum Ablaufe von sechs Monaten nach Zustellung der endgültigen Entscheidung des Kriegsministeriums erhoben wird.

14. Gesuche an Seine Majestät den Kaiser und König dürfen von Unteroffizieren und Soldaten des Beurlaubtenstandes nicht unmittelbar, sondern nur durch Vermittlung des Bezirksfeldwebels eingereicht werden.

15. Es liegt im eigenen Interesse der Invaliden und Rentenempfänger, welche der Meldepflicht nicht mehr unterliegen, daß sie von ihrem Verziehen in einen anderen Landwehrbezirk dem Bezirkskommando oder Meldeamt des bisherigen oder des neuen Wohnorts unter genauer Angabe ihrer Wohnung Kenntnis geben.

## Muster für schriftliche Meldungen.

1. Die nachstehenden Muster sollen nur als Anhalt dienen. Die Meldungen können auch in anderer Form erstattet werden, wenn dieselben die vorgeschriebenen Angaben enthalten.

Das Papier zu allen Meldungen muß rein und mindestens doppelt so groß wie eine Seite des Passes sein.

2. Äußere Aufschrift (Wuchsel) entweder offen oder mit dem Siegel der Ortsbehörde verschlossen):

An

den Herrn Bezirksfeldwebel

zu

Heeresfache

(Ort der Kontrollstelle)

(Stadtbriefe müssen freigelegt werden.)

## a) Für An-Meldungen.

41X

Ort ..... Datum .....

Inhaber beifolgenden Passes meldet sich  
Kreis .....

an für ..... (Bezirksamt usw.) .....

in ..... Städten .....  
in größeren Ortschaften Straße und Haus-Nr. ....  
in großen Städten auch: Stockwerk .....  
und Name des Quartierwirts .....

Anzugeben  
Wo bisher gewohnt .....  
Ob verheiratet .....  
Wieviel Kinder ..... Söhne ..... Töchter .....  
Stand oder Gewerbe: .....  
(Name des Meldenden) .....

Wenn der Paß zufällig nicht vorhanden, noch anzugeben:  
Wann und wo geboren .....  
wann und bei welchem Truppenteil in den Dienst getreten .....  
oder wann und wo der Ersatzreserve und welcher Waffen-  
gattung usw. überwiesen .....  
Wo zuletzt gemeldet .....  
Weshalb ist der Paß nicht beigelegt?

## b) Für Ab-Meldungen.

und für Wohnorts- und Wohnungswechsel innerhalb des Kontrollbezirks.

Ort ..... Datum .....

Inhaber beifolgenden Passes meldet sich  
Kreis .....

ab nach ..... (Bezirksamt usw.) .....

oder ..... Kreis .....  
..... (Bezirksamt usw.) .....

von ..... nach .....  
in ..... Städten .....  
in größeren Ortschaften Straße und Haus-Nr. ....  
in großen Städten auch: Stockwerk .....  
und Name des Quartierwirts .....

verzogen. ....  
(Name des Meldenden) .....

Wenn der Paß zufällig nicht vorhanden, noch anzugeben:  
Wann und wo geboren .....  
wann und bei welchem Truppenteil in den Dienst getreten .....  
oder wann und wo der Ersatzreserve und welcher Waffen-  
gattung usw. überwiesen .....  
Wo zuletzt gemeldet .....  
Weshalb ist der Paß nicht beigelegt?

41X

## c) Für Dispositions-Mitläufer.

Ort ..... Datum .....  
 Inhaber beifolgenden Passes bittet verziehen  
 zu dürfen  
 von .....  
 nach ..... Kreis .....  
 (Bezirksamt usw.)  
 Name .....

## d) Für sonstige Meldungen.

Bei allen vorstehend nicht erwähnten Meldungen genügt  
 ganz kurze Abfassung.

Bei Abmeldungen ins Ausland, auf Reisen oder  
 Wanderschaft wird auf die genaueste Beachtung der  
 Passbestimmungen 7, 8 und 9 hingewiesen. Auf keinen  
 Fall darf unterlassen werden eine Person zu bezeichnen,  
 durch welche dem Reisenden usw. jederzeit Gefstellungsbesche  
 zugestellt werden können.

Die bezügliche Meldung würde lauten:

„Inhaber beifolgenden Passes meldet sich  
 nach ..... ab (oder  
 auf ..... Reisen  
 auf ..... Wanderschaft). Befehle für ihn besorgt:  
 Name .....  
 in ..... Kreis .....  
 (Bezirksamt usw.)  
 in ..... Städten  
 in ..... größeren Ortschaften: Straße und Haus-Nr. ....  
 Name des Meldenden .....

## Nationale des Buchinhabers.

## 1. Vor- und Familienname:

*Leopold Friedberg*

Geboren am 2<sup>ten</sup> Juni 18 91

zu *Wölfersheim*

Verwaltungsbezirk: *St. Friedberg*

Bundesstaat: *Hessen*

2. Stand oder Gewerbe: *Rekrutierung*

3. Religion: *evangelisch*

4. Ob verheiratet: *ledig*

Kinder: *2*

## 5. Datum und Art des Dienst Eintritts:

*13. 2 15 als Leutnant. Rkr.*

6. Bei welchem Truppenteile (unter Angabe der  
Kompanie, Eskadron, Batterie):

*Leut. F. R. 4 Rkr. 4. pol.*



Verletzungen (unter Angabe des Datums und  
der Kompagnie, Eskadron, Batterie):

*Am 15. 6. 15 I E / F R. 41. 2. L.*  
*Am 26. 2. 16*

5. Komp.  
2. E. I.-R. 41

Beförderungen (unter Angabe des Datums und  
der Art):

7. Datum und Art der Entlassung:

*Am 30. 4. 16 als Kämpf-  
er im Kriege aufhören.*

8. Von welchem Truppenteil:

5. Komp.  
2. E. I.-R. 41

Nr. der Truppenstammrolle:

*Nr. 1541 für 1916*

Körpergröße: 1, m.

9. Orden und Ehrenzeichen:

10. Feldzüge, Verwundungen:

*1) gegen Rußland von  
15. 6. bis 1. 8. 15. Am 1. 8. 15  
bei Ruda Skoda G. J. Kk.  
Verwundet.*

11. Besondere militärische Ausbildung:

*Genau 98*

Schießklasse: *I*te

Schützenabzeichen:

12. Bemerkungen:

Stiefelmaß: Länge: ..... om, Weite: .....

Hat das Befähigungszeugnis zum

Ausgefertigt

*Memmel*

den *30* ten

*April*

19*16*



An Bekleidungsstücken hat derselbe bei seinem Abgange erhalten:

..... Waffentrock usw.,  
 ..... Hose,  
 ..... Unterhose,  
 ..... Mütze,  
 ..... Halsbinde,  
 ..... Hemde,  
 ..... Paar Stiefel (Schuhe).

Derselbe hat auf dem Marsche nach seinem künftigen Aufenthaltsort *Wölferstern*  
 Kreis *Friedberg*

die Eisenbahn

von .....  
 bis .....  
 von .....  
 bis .....  
 von .....  
 bis .....

von .....

bis .....

gegen Militärfahrchein, bezw. Militärfahrkarte  
zu benutzen und seine übrigen Bedürfnisse aus  
den ihm

diesseits mit Mark Pf.

diesseits mit Mark Pf.

diesseits mit Mark Pf.

diesseits mit Mark Pf.

behändigten Marschgebühren zu bezahlen.

Übergetreten zur Landwehr 1. Aufgebots  
am:

Übergetreten zur Landwehr 2. Aufgebots  
am:

Der Übertritt zum Landsturm 2. Aufgebots  
erfolgt im Frieden ohne weiteres und zwar, so-  
fern nicht die Zurückversetzung in eine jüngere  
Zahresklasse verfügt war:

- a) für Mannschaften, welche vor Beginn des  
militärpflichtigen Alters (d. i. der 1. Januar  
des Kalenderjahres, in welchem das 20ste  
Lebensjahr vollendet wird) eingetreten sind,  
am 31. März desjenigen Kalenderjahres,  
in welchem sie 19 Jahre dem Heere an-  
gehört haben;
- b) für sämtliche übrigen Mannschaften am  
31. März desjenigen Kalenderjahres, in  
welchem das 39. Lebensjahr vollendet wird.

Kommandobehörde,  
welche Zusätze einträgt

Zusätze zu  
(Übungen und

Datum

5. Komp.  
2 E. I.-R.

20/4

11

J. Sonnenborn  
unbefristet  
versp. 28. 10. 11.  
I. h. d. P. 5263  
Kampfbefähigung

den Personal-Notizen.  
Einberufungen, Führung, Strafen usw.)

neu vom 26.2.16 bis jetzt bei  
unbefristet im Kriegsdienst. Er wird ohne  
Gen. d. H. I. A. R. vom 4.4.16  
als Kampfbefähigter mit Kriegs-  
führung verbleiben.

Führer

gut

Straten



Reichenberg

Hauptmann & Komp. Führer

Kommandobehörde,  
welche Zusage einträgt

Zusage zu  
(Übungen und

Datum



17. Lomaborn  
5. ausgeführt  
16. 60% d. Volksw. la  
Kostenumm. laufz.  
Kriegszulage  
vom 1. 5. 16.

Bez.-Com.  
Friedberg  
Kriegs. Abt.

24.  
m.  
1914

Kriegszulage  
findet nicht  
statt.

11

den Personal-Notizen.  
Einberufungen, Führung, Strafen usw.)

bezieht sich Kriegszulage.  
folgende Gebüh. stellt:

27. - monatlich  
28. -  
18. -

69. - Akk monatlich  
ab 1. 5. 16.



Land Kriegszulage im Kriegszust.  
1914 vom 1. 5. 16. 1915



Kommandobehörde,  
welche Zusage einträgt

Datum

Zusätze zu  
(Übungen und

Bez.-Hdo. Friedberg i. H.  
Verord.-Kollg.

Hauptmeldeamt  
Friedberg i. H.

Am 6. 5. 1918

den Personal-Rotizen.  
(Einführungen, Führung, Strafen usw.)

D. U. Land st. Musterung 4. 4. 1917

nr. 22. Klasse, Ordnung  
im Einvernehmen

17. Hauptverpflichtung  
18. Aufhebung der Einvernehmen  
19. 1917

Am 6. 5. 1918



## Meldungen und Beurlaubungen.

## Bestimmungen

für die

## Mannschaften des Beurlaubtenstandes

\*) (hinsgl. der vorläufig in die Heimat beurlaubten Rekruten).

## I. Allgemeines.

1. Zu den Mannschaften des Beurlaubtenstandes, auf die die nachstehenden Bestimmungen, soweit in denselben Ernahmen nicht angegeben sind, Anwendung finden, gehören Mannschaften:

- a) der Reserve,
- b) der Landwehr ersten und zweiten Aufgebots,
- c) der Ersatzreserve,
- d) die bis zur Entscheidung über ihr ferneres Militärverhältnis zur Disposition der Ersatzbehörden entlassenen Mannschaften\*) und
- e) die vor erfüllter aktiver Dienstpflicht zur Disposition der Truppenteile beurlaubten Mannschaften.

2. Die Mannschaften, welche aus dem aktiven Dienst entlassen werden, haben sich spätestens 14 Tage nach ihrer Entlassung bei der Kontrollstelle (Kompaniechef, Hauptmeldeamt, Meldeamt, Weisungsstelle) anzumelden, welcher der von ihnen gewählte Aufenthaltort unterstellt ist. Diese Meldung ist auch dann erforderlich, wenn der Entlassene an dem Standorte seines bisherigen Truppenteils bleibt. Die An- und Abmeldung bei der Kontrollstelle des Aufenthaltsortes muß auch dann stets erfolgen, wenn der Betreffende diesen Ort bereits vor Verlauf von 14 Tagen wieder verläßt.

3. Die nächsten militärischen Vorgesetzten der Mannschaften des Beurlaubtenstandes sind der Kompaniechef des Kompaniebezirks oder die Weisungsstelle des Hauptmeldeamts oder Meldeamts, zu dessen Bezirk der Aufenthaltsort gehört, der Bezirkskommandant, der Kontrollkommandant und der Kommandeur des Landwehrbezirks, sowie deren Stellvertreter (vergleiche auch Ziffer 6).

4. Die Mannschaften des Beurlaubtenstandes haben den Befehlen ihrer Vorgesetzten, öffentlichen Aufforderungen und Gesetzgebungen unbedingt Folge zu leisten. Insbesondere ist es ihre ehrenvolle Bestimmung, sich zur Verteidigung des Thrones und des Vaterlandes zu stellen.

5. Bei Anbringung dienstlicher Gesuche und Beschwerden an die Mannschaften des Beurlaubtenstandes verpflichtet, den

\*) Auf diese Mannschaften findet die Bestimmung 22 c gleichfalls Anwendung.

vorgeschriebenen Dienstweg und die festgesetzten Beschwerdebefristen einzuhalten. (Gefühle sind an den Bezirksfeldwebel der Kontrollstelle zu richten, Beschwerden dem Bezirks-Kommandeur vorzutragen; richtet sich die Beschwerde gegen letzteren, so ist sie bei dem vorgesetzten Bezirks- oder Kontrollfeldhüter, wenn aber ein solcher nicht vorhanden, bei dem Bezirks-Abtinenten anzubringen. Die Beschwerde darf erst am folgenden Tage oder nach Verbißung einer etwa verhängten Strafe erhoben und muß inner halb einer Frist von fünf Tagen angebracht werden.

Die Mannschaften des Beurlaufslandes sind im dienstlichen Verkehr mit ihren Vorgesetzten\*, oder wenn sie in Militär-uniform erscheinen (wozu auch der Entlassungsantrag gehört), der militärischen Disziplin unterworfen.

## II. Aufenthaltswechsel, Reisen, Aufenthalt im Auslande, sowie diezerhalb zu erhaltende Meldungen.

6. Mannschaften, welche innerhalb des Kontrollbezirks — d. i. Bezirk des Hauptmeibeamts, Meibeamts oder der Kompagniebezirk — ihren Aufenthaltsort oder die Wohnung wechseln, haben dies innerhalb 14 Tage ihrer Kontrollstelle zu melden. Desgleichen ist jede veränderte Wohnungsbezeichnung als Folge geänderter Straßennamen und Hausnummern der Kontrollstelle innerhalb der angegebenen Frist zu melden.

Die An- und Abmeldung bei der Kontrollstelle des Aufstanzortes muß auch dann stets erfolgen, wenn der Betroffene d. Ort bereits vor Verlauf von 14 Tagen wieder verläßt. Aber auch bei Wanderchaft befindlichen Mannschaften siehe Ziffer 8.

Wer aus einem Kontrollbezirk in einen andern versetzt, hat sich bei seiner bisherigen Kontrollstelle ab- und bei der Kontrollstelle seines neuen Aufenthaltsorts innerhalb 14 Tage nach Verlassen seines alten Wohnsitzes anzumelden.

Nach Eintritt einer Mobilmachung sind Veränderungen des Aufenthaltsorts oder der Wohnung innerhalb 48 Stunden zu melden. Ist der Stellungspflichtige im Besitze einer Kriegszuordnung, so behält diese auch bei einem Vorrage nach aussprechender Mobilmachung so lange Gültigkeit, bis dem Vertriebenen eine andere Kriegszuordnung ausgeschrieben wird.

7. Mannschaften des Beurlaufslandes können ungehindert verreisen, haben jedoch der Kontrollstelle den Eintritt der Reise und die Rückkehr von derselben zu melden, sobald diese eine 14 tägige und längere Abwesenheit vom Aufenthaltsorte zur Folge hat. Wer beim Eintritt der Reise nicht zu übersehen, ob die Abwesenheit sich über 14 Tage hinaus erstrecken werde, so ist die Meldung spätestens 14 Tage nach erfolgter Abreise

\*) Als Vorgesetzte sind alle Militärpersonen anzusehen, die im aktiven Dienst ihre Vorgesetzten sein würden.

zu erstatten. Bei jeder Abmeldung zur Reise hat der betreffende anzugeben, durch welche dritte Person während seiner Abwesenheit etwaige Befehle an ihn befördert werden können. Er bleibt jedoch der Militärbehörde gegenüber allein dafür verantwortlich, daß ihm jeder Befehl richtig zugeht.

Fällt in die Zeit der Reise eine Übung, so ist der Reservist, Wehrmann oder Ersatzreserve verpflichtet, einem an ihn ergehenden Befehl zur Übung unbedingt Folge zu leisten, und muß eines solchen gewärtig sein, wenn er nicht vor Eintritt der Reise auf seinen Antrag von der Teilnahme an der Übung ausdrücklich befreit ist.

Fällt in die Zeit der Reise eine Kontrollversammlung, so hat der betreffende, falls er nicht im voraus von derselben freigestellt sein sollte, zum 15. April beziehungsweise 15. November der Kontrollstelle schriftlich seinen zeitigen Aufenthaltsort anzuzeigen. Wer jedoch, bevor er sich zur Reise abmeldete, zur Kontrollversammlung aufgefordert ist, muß der Aufforderung Folge leisten, falls er nicht davon befreit wird.

Mannschaften der Reserve, Landwehr und Ersatzreserve, welche zur See gehen, sind in Friedenszeiten bei Anmusterungen durch die Seemannsämler von der jedesmaligen Abmeldung entbunden, haben sich aber nach im Inland erfolgter Abmusterung innerhalb 14 Tage, im Mobilmachungsfall innerhalb 48 Stunden, unter Vorlegung der erhaltenen Abmusterungsbefreiung bei der zuständigen Kontrollstelle zu melden. Gesendet sich an dem Abmusterungsorte nicht bei zuständige Kontrollstelle, wohl aber an anderer Bezirksfeldwebel oder ein anderes Hauptmeibeamt oder Meibeamt, so kann die, solchen falls jedoch stets persönlich zu erstattende Abmeldung ausnahmsweise auch bei dieser Stelle erfolgen und wird von derselben an die eigentlich zuständige Kontrollstelle weitergegeben. Erfolgt nach der Abmusterung die sofortige Wiederanmusterung für das selbe Schiff, so kann die Meldung ganz unterbleiben.

8. Mannschaften, welche im Auslande ihren Aufenthaltsort nehmen, haben geeignete Vorkehrungen zu treffen, daß dienstliche Befehle ihrer Vorgesetzten und namentlich Stellungsbefehle ihnen jederzeit zugestellt werden können. Zur Teilnahme an Übungen und Kontrollversammlungen sind dieselben verpflichtet, soweit sie nicht ausdrücklich hiervon befreit werden.

Wegen Urlaubs ins Auslande siehe Ziffer 18.

9. Mannschaften, welche aus Wanderchaft gehen wollen, haben sich bei der Kontrollstelle abzumelden und dabei anzugeben, durch welche dritte Person ihnen Befehle jederzeit zugestellt werden können. Während der Wanderchaft sind dieselben von weiteren Meldungen entbunden. — Sobald jedoch der wandernde



Referent, Wehrmann oder Ersahreferent an einem Orte innerhalb Deutschlands in Arbeit tritt, hat er sich bei der Kontrollstelle seines neuen Aufenthaltsortes anzumelden. Tritt er an einem Orte außerhalb Deutschlands in Arbeit, so hat er dies seiner bisherigen Kontrollstelle zu melden.

10. a) Die An- und Abmeldungen können mündlich oder schriftlich<sup>\*)</sup> erfolgen, müssen aber — mit Ausnahme von Mannschaften der Landwehr zweiten Aufgebots, welche dieselben auch durch Familienangehörige erlassen lassen können — durch den zur Meldung Verpflichteten selbst erstattet werden; Meldungen durch einen Dritten sind nur in den Fällen gestattet, in welchen es sich um eine Abmeldung beim Aufenthaltswechsel oder beim Wohnungswechsel innerhalb einer Stadt oder um Ab- und Anmeldung bei Reisen handelt.

Sind in einzelnen Kontrollbezirken besondere Orte festgesetzt, an welchen zu bestimmten bekannt gemachten Tagen und Stunden ein Bezirksfeldwebel der Kontrollstelle zur Entgegennahme von Meldungen anwesend ist, so dürfen zu dieser Zeit dafelbst derartige Meldungen angebracht werden.

b) Bei jeder Meldung ist der Militärpaß beziehungsweise Ersahreferenpaß vorzulegen; ist derselbe zufällig nicht vorhanden, so hat die Meldung dennoch zu geschehen, und wird dann eine besondere Bescheinigung über dieselbe erteilt. Nur wenn die Meldung im Paß eingetragen, oder eine besondere Bescheinigung über dieselbe vorhanden ist, gilt sie als erfolgt.

Falls Mannschaften bereits bei der Abmusterung nach Rückkehr von einer Seefahrt eine baldige erneute Annahmerung in Aussicht haben, so kann bei schriftlicher Rückmeldung ausnahmsweise die Befügung des Passes unterbleiben; jedoch ist der Grund hierfür bei der Rückmeldung anzugeben.

c) Wer sich schriftlich anmeldet, hat bei Übersendung des Passes anzugeben, wo er früher gewohnt hat, und für welchen Ort er sich anmeldet, ob er verheiratet ist und Kinder hat, welchem Stande oder Gewerbe er angehört.

d) Geht die Meldung durch die Post, so werden sie inner-

\*) Für Erstattung schriftlicher Meldungen dienen die am Schluss abgedruckten Muster als Anhalt.

Für Erstattung solcher Meldungen sind bei den Ortsverhältnissen vorgegebene Formulare (a und b der Muster) zur kostenfreien Benutzung niedergelegt. Die Ortsverhältnisse sind auf Ersuchen bei der Ausstellung der Formulare beizufügen. Die Abfertigung der Meldung ist Sache des Meldepflichtigen.

halb des Gebiets des Deutschen Reichs portofrei befördert, insofern die Schreiben mit der Aufschrift „Militaria“ versehen und offen oder unter dem Siegel der Ortspolizeibehörde versehen werden. Die portofreie Benutzung der Stadtpost ist jedoch ausgeschlossen.

11. Wer die vorgeschriebenen Meldungen unterläßt, wird disziplinarisch mit Geldstrafe von 1 bis 60 Mark oder mit Haft von 1 bis 8 Tagen bestraft. Wer sich der Kontrolle entzieht und seine Dienstzeit damit unterbricht, muß die versäumte Dienstzeit nachholen.

### III. Kontrollversammlungen.

12. a) Im Frühjahr findet im Monat April für alle Referenten, Wehrmänner ersten Aufgebots und Ersahreferenten sowie die zur Disposition der Ersahbehörden entlassenen und die zur Disposition der Truppenteile beurlaubten Mannschaften, — im Herbst im Monat November für alle Referenten, sowie die zur Disposition der Ersahbehörden entlassenen und die zur Disposition der Truppenteile beurlaubten Mannschaften eine Kontrollversammlung statt. Auch werden in einzelnen Bezirken für die schiffahrtstreibenden Mannschaften Schifferkontrollversammlungen im Januar angelegt. Nur Wehrmänner, deren gesetzliche Dienstzeit im ersten Aufgebot in der Zeit vom 1. April bis 30. September ihr Ende erreicht, werden im letzten Jahre ihrer Dienstpflicht im ersten Aufgebot zu den Herbstkontrollversammlungen herangezogen und sind von der Teilnahme an den Frühjahrskontrollversammlungen dieses Jahres entbunden.

Die zu Kontrollversammlungen berufenen Mannschaften setzen für den ganzen Tag, an welchem die Kontrollversammlung stattfindet, unter den Militärtagesbefehl.

b) Wer Krankheit oder dringende Geschäfte, welche so unvorhergesehen eintreten, daß ein Befreiungsgesuch nicht mehr eingereicht werden kann, von der Teilnahme an der Kontrollversammlung abgehalten wird, muß vorher oder spätestens zur Stunde derselben durch eine Bescheinigung der Orts- oder Polizeibehörde entschuldigt werden.

c) Wer zur Teilnahme an der Kontrollversammlung verpflichtet ist, bis zum 15. April oder 15. November oder zu derselben keine Aufforderung, welche in der Regel durch öffentliche Bekanntmachung erfolgt, erhalten hat, auch nicht von der Kontrollversammlung befreit ist, ist verpflichtet, sich zu den angegebenen Zeitpunkten mündlich

oder schriftlich bei seiner Kontrollstelle zu melden. Die Unterlassung dieser Meldung wird nach Ziffer 11 bestraft.

- a) Die nach Mitteilung der Seemannsämter für deutsche Handelschiffe Angemusterten sind während der Dauer der bei der Annustierung eingegangenen Verpflichtungen von der Teilnahme an den Kontrollversammlungen befreit.
- a) Mannschaften der Landwehr zweiten Aufgebots werden im Frieden zu Kontrollversammlungen nicht herangezogen.

#### IV. Übungen.

13. a) Jeder Reservist ist zur Teilnahme an zwei Übungen bis zur Dauer von je 8 Wochen verpflichtet.
- b) Die Mannschaften der Landwehr ersten Aufgebots — ausschließlich der Kavallerie, welche zu Übungen im Frieden nicht einberufen wird — können zweimal auf 8 bis 14 Tage, vom Tage des Eintreffens beim Truppenteil an gerechnet, zu Übungen einberufen werden.
- c) Mannschaften der Landwehr zweiten Aufgebots werden im Frieden zu Übungen nicht herangezogen.
- d) Die Ersatzreservisten sind im Frieden zu drei Übungen verpflichtet, von denen die erste zehn Wochen, die zweite sechs Wochen und die dritte vier Wochen dauert. — Im übrigen siehe „Besondere Bestimmungen“ Ziffer 20 und 21.
- e) Wer zur Übung einberufen wird, jedoch auf Grund häuslicher, gewerblicher oder amtlicher Verhältnisse von derselben befreit zu werden wünscht, hat unter Vorlage einer obrigkeitlichen Bescheinigung sein Gesuch dem Bezirksfeldwebel oder Kontrollstelle rechtzeitig vor Stellung zur Übung vorzutragen. — Erhält er vor Anfang der Übung seinen Bescheid, so muß er sich dennoch stellen. Schon einmal Verursachte dürfen in der Regel nicht befreit werden.
- f) Zur Übung Einberufene stehen von dem Tage der Einziehung bis zum Ablauf des Tages der Wiederentlassung unter den Militärgesetzen.
- g) Zur Übung Einberufene haben bei einer während der Übung eintretenden Mobilmachung auf Entlassung in die Heimat nicht zu rechnen, sofern sie nicht für unabkömmlich erklärt oder von der Einberufung in Mobilmachungsfall zurückgestellt sind.

#### V. Verschiedene Bestimmungen.

14. Die Nichtbefolgung der Berufung zu den Kontrollversammlungen hat Arrest zur Folge. Die Nichtbefolgung der Einberufung zu Übungen, sowie zur Stellung bei außerordentlichen Zusammenziehungen, ferner nach bekannt gemachter Kriegsbereitschaft oder angeordneter Mobil-

#### Meldungen und Beurteilungen.



**End of Sonneborn Family Collection  
Addenda**

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